Tagalog ng Bagyo/A18
Pumbuyad sa utang: Kung di bagong bawis, ano!
VIDEO A.11 • TIV TEXT 2910

Metro/A21
Bird sanctuaries for herons in Valenzuela City

Magazine
Gemma Cruz: Growing up in a house full of women

News/A2
Bro. Armin Luistro is De La Salle's new president

Lifestyle
John Hay marries land development and preservation

Preparations in place for release of 2 soldiers

By Veh Cuncuna and Christian V. Esguerra

LEFTIST guerrillas in Basilan have been ordered to observe their usual of the ceasefire and the Red Cross has been contacted to oversee the release soon of two soldiers held captive for five and a half months.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, PEARLESS VIEWS

Sunday, August 15, 2004 • 32 pages / vol. 19 / no. 249

DETTMS into the spirit of Lunas del Mario Day, President Arroyo dons a Lumbay-making fit for royalty at the opening of "Pugon, Mansan," a festival of delicacies, songs and dances held at the Bahay Kalukan in Malacañang.

Bandit's death disputed

AFP insists he's already buried; MILF says he was wounded

FIREWORKS lit the story of the glory that was Greece crowning the opening rites of the Athens 2004 Olympic Games at the Olympic stadium packed by about 75,000 spectators.

By Christian V. Esguerra and Alcuin Papa, Ellen Mirada, Roco-May Y. de Guzman and Edwin O. Fernandez
PDI Mindanao Bureau

HIS HEIGHT supposedly leave into flames when a rocket fired by a helicopter pilot slammed into it. But his body has not been found.

In elusive Pentagon hide-and-seek gang chief Abu Sayyaf dead or alive?

Armed forces and police officials in Basilan insisted yesterday he was killed in the military attack Friday on the Pentagon's lair in a village of Al. Peralatan municipality in Maguindanao. Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) spokesperson Eid Kabalu said Tahir was only seriously wounded.

In any case, President Macapagal-Arroyo has already congratulated the military and the police for the reported killing of Tahir and some of his followers, saying her government need "the head of steel" to flush the group out of its hideout. [See related story on Page A8.]

Military reports on the exact number of those killed were conflicting. Some accounts put the Pentagon death toll at 31, others at 16 and 17.

"The house from two floors when explosives were set by the rebels and machinegun fire," armed forces spokesperson Lt. Col. Buenel Lucid-Noel said, quoting what he said was an official report from pilots who took part in the attack.

Lucero said residents of the area told soldiers the bodies of Tahir and of his followers who were also killed were immediately buried on Friday evening in Sitio Tiruk in Barangay Mulpandan.

Maddun Sury then dead within 24 hours, according to their custom.

Brought for comment, Indon-

SHOOTS A2

Pinoys looked like winners; then defeat

By Armando T. Doronila Jr.
News Editor

ATHENS—Standing with thousands of other athletes from 202 countries in the opening day ceremonies, they looked like winners. They were the giants of Asian

Their impressive debuts in boxing and swimming on the first day of competitions on Saturday cast an early cloud on Philippine hopes of bagging at least one medal in the 28th Summer Olympics. [See story on A233]

At the opening ceremonies on Friday, the Filipinos were resplendent in hunting Tagalogs while the other women in the contingent—archer Josrelie Peregrino, swimmer Jocelyn Ongpilloon and long jumper Lerma Robinson Kabisi—stood out in their pink and gray sarongs.

A few hours before the ceremonies got underway, middleweight boxer Christopher Camerer was pulled from flag-bearing duty because he had to fight the next day.

Although Camerer was still listed in the ceremonies program as the Philippine flag bearer, it was ex-office Senate light welterweight Ramon Avelino, who inherited the honor of marching in front of the Philippine delegation.

The other athletes who marched were swimmers Jasmine Walde, Raphael Chua and Miguel Mendoza, shooter Jethro Dionisio, and boxers Mullen Pasila and Henry Tabanino.

As expected, coaches, officials and politicians outnumbered the athletes who marched on expenses-paid trips to the capitals of the world.

There were 10 athletes and 14 officials who marched behind the Philippine flag, including chef de mission Siete Ibanez-Imperial, Secretary Polonio Pangilinan, Rep. Monico Puentevella, Senator Manny Villar's Mel Lopez Jr., and former Olympian and shooting head Bernie Macapagal.

Lopez and Ibanez-Imperial marched alongside the three Filipinos in front of the column just a few steps behind the flag-bearing Avelino.

The Philippine contingent

REPORTS A10

BORNE Ramon Avelino carries the national flag as the head of the 24-man Philippine delegation.

Coast Guard beckons: Adopt a lighthouse

By Nara Haryan Alcuino
Contributor

THERE'S hope for the 112-year-old Malabrigo lighthouse in Lobo, Batangas.

Last March, sights of relief and local officials marked the signing of a memorandum of agreement between the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and Capt. James Marsh Thomson and his daughter Misha, an Asean Games gold medalist in swimming.

With the agreement, drawn up in line with the PCG's Adopt-a-Lighthouse Program, the Thomsons became the official guardians of Lobo's architectural treasure for the next 10 years.

No one could have been happier than Fernando "Bandog" de Mesa, lawyer of the Save de Ponte de Malabrigo for the past 27 years.

Before the Thomsons and Mesa lit Head Mel Mendoza came to visit more than a year ago, bleeding worried about the lighthouse's future whenever he witnessed the grass, shrubs and trees swept the courtyard and landed off treasure hunters and vandals.

He had no

her soon to realize that while maintenance costs were rising, resources were severely limited.

Happily, however, the Thomsons were charmed by the strength and serenity of the lighthouse. They were also convinced about its redevelopment becoming fully well that loan protecting historical landmarks could only be achieved with sufficient resources.

"They decided to lobby for private management action and sought the assistance of Vice Adm. Jaudino Ramirez, who not only became instrumental in functioning the Coastwatch but also became instrumental in the launch of the Adopt-a-Lighthouse program.

The PCG administration launched the program two years ago. It is a partnership between the private sector and non-government organizations to conserve and maintain activities geared toward arresting the deterioration of lighthouses nationwide and preserve their historical significance.

For its part, the PCG ensures that the lighthouses serve their purpose.

Robert Lane, president of the Friends of Impressions Foundation Inc. and a member of the

LIGHTS A10

STILL LONELY but no longer forgotten: The 112-year-old Malabrigo lighthouse in Lobo, Batangas.

'Missing' tycoon shows up, is gone in a flash

By Elizabeth L. Sandoval and Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THE FAMILY had cast the public a curiously puzzling shiver in newspaper advertisements put out by the controlling parties yesterday took an intriguing turn with the appearance of the "missing" patriarchate as a host to the Philippine Center.

Businessman Gilbert Ang presented his father Francisco Ang Co Chu, 79, founder of the company that manufactures the 'lil

home appliances, at a press conference in a 27th floor room at the Intercontinental in Makati to allay fears of alleged detentions raised by his mother Sinsay and his sisters Irene, Geraldine and Gladys.

Francisco, who is said to be suffering from Alzheimer's disease, was wearing a purple shirt, covered shirt and dark jeans and was in a wheelchair.

He was wheeled in from a room adjoining the conference venue by two nurses. He briefly said some-

PROMISES A10

How to be lazy without really trying

PARIS—Leaders, take heart.

Finally, instead of demolishing hallowed ambiguous notions of idle joie de vivre, there's an argument of life's sometime to leisurely. Visitor has declared outright that the French should endorse the Anglo-Saxon work ethic and openly embrace sloth.

Corinne Maier, the author of "Bonjour

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2004
Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

Miriam set to name more execs involved in new 'Amari' scam

By Michael Lim Ubac
and Fe Zamora

MANILA, Inc. Miriam De-fensor-Santiago said she will be naming more former and current government officials allegedly involved in the so-called Smokey Mountain scam on Monday even as former President Ramos yesterday defended the joint venture as "noble and above-board," and one that could stand scrutiny in a Senate inquiry.

Santiago, whose "hindi ng biro!" privilege speech on Aug. 11 sparked a Senate committee investigation into the contract for the development of the Smokey Mountain dump site into a housing and commercial industrial estate, said she would expose the public officials who allegedly profited for the lopsided contract.

The senator told reporters the other day that Ramos headed the list of the first batch of witnesses to be summoned to the joint committee hearings, to start on Monday, to look into the contract between the National Housing Authority and businessman Beghin Romero's R.S. Builders which was concluded during the Ramos administration.

Santiago asked the Senate to look into "the criminal and civil liabilities" of Romero as she noted that the transfer to his company of what was considered to be public lands was "onerous, unusual, illegal, invalid and criminal."

In a press conference yesterday, Ramos brushed off Santiago's allegations as being part of the hullabaloo of being an ex-President.

"That is the job of an ex-President. Be ready to be a punching bag," he said.

"They all resorts, so we can get to the bottom of the muck," Ramos said of the Senate inquiry.

If given a choice, Ramos said he would "resist the hearings to be held at Smokey Mountain, the 25-hectare garbage dump which has been converted into a housing estate for some 3,000 squatter families.

But he said the Senate should "first sort out its facts and history of the project," noting that there were some discrepancies in Auditor's reports.

He said the project was initiated by former President Corazon Aquino through a memorandum issued to then Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon, who is now Senate President, on March 2, 1990.

The Sunday Business Desk opinion Plus was unavailable for photocopying on Jan. 17, 1992, and the pre-qualification bid was held two months later, he said.

"It was R-II Builders that won this contract. Senator [President Drilon] should come out and explain because he was the executive secretary at the time," Ramos said.

In his privilege speech, Santiago said the contract with R-II Builders was illegal as it enabled the transfer to a private company of 79 hectares of reclaimed public land in Manila Bay where Smokey Mountain stands.

Ramos denied this.

"I am not defending R-II Builders but the land did not reclaimed by private ownership. It is owned by the National Housing Authority," he said. With a report from Nikko Dizon

BRO. Armin A. Luistro FSC takes his oath of office before Chief Justice Hilario Davide assisted by Bro. Edmundo Fernandez FSC. (PCIJ photo)

La Salle installs new president

BRO. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC is officially the new President of the De La Salle University System.

He was elected On 20th presidents of the institution on Dec. 13, 2003, but only assumed the post here on April 1, 2004.

Appropriately enough, Luistro's investiture occurred on Aug. 13, the feast of Saint Benilde Romançon, a De La Salle Christian Brother whose sanctity was distinguished by "doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way."

The Mass was officiated by the Archbishop of Manila Cardinal Jaime Sin as the Chapel of the Most Blessed Sacrament, De La Salle University on Taft Ave., Manila.

Davide administers oath

Luistro took his oath of office before Chief Justice Hilario Davide, who was assisted by Bro. Edmundo Fernandez FSC.

Outgoing DLSU president Br. Carmelita Quitoriano awarded the presidential medal 'ubilo Board of Regents chair Ramon del Rosario Jr. presented the presidential mace to Luistro.

Distinguished guests included former President Corazon C. Aquino, the Papal Nuncio Antonio Franco who, along with 14 priests, concelebrated the Mass, Sen. Andrew Gonzalez FSC, Bro. Bernard Oca FSC and Bro. Rafael Donato FSC.

Leadership characteristics

Luistro exemplifies the characteristics of a leader that the DLSU Presidential Committee looked for—one who could achieve a healthy balance between the pursuit of academic excellence, the furtherance of Lasallian Christian formation, and the enrollment of the university to be of service to the poor and to promote social justice, read the investiture ceremony program.

In his inaugural address, Luistro urged everyone to think of ways as the DLSU system could increase its stake in social transformation.

Eliminating mediocrity

"We should excel in the things that we do, for in performing our daily duties extraordinarily... we gain a higher ground from which we can assist in eliminating the mediocrity that abounds in our national economy, in government, in communities, in the Church, and in our very own units," he said.

Luistro comes from a deeply religious family. From a large brood, his parents, the late Jose Dimayuga Luistro and Magdalena Acuña Armamento Luistro, produced two former religious leaders: a protestant of the Iglesia ni Cristo, Fr. Sebastian A. Luistro III, and the immediate past Brother Visitor of the De La Salle Brothers and now 20th president of DLSU, Brother Luistro.

Prelate calls for moral transparency

CEBU CITY—Congressmen should not only be transparent in the disbursement of public funds but also in their "moral behavior," according to Davao Archbishop Fernando Capalla, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

"If there is transparency in the use of funds there should also be transparency in moral behavior," said Capalla, who said he was inclined to support calls for a congressional inquiry into allegations that some congressmen had been having "resort services."

"All I can say is that our congressmen and congresswomen are supposedly not only models of good moral character but they are also leaders of the people. When they are in Congress, their talk about moral and social values. So they should be good examples of what they preach," he said.

Capalla was in Cebu to attend the episcopal ordination of his designated priest Emmanuel Cabajar, the new Bishop of Pagadian, at the Perpetual Help Parish here.

Also present at the ceremony were Apostolic Nuncio Antonio Franco, Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, Manila Archbishop Leonardo Antonio and 31 other bishops and more than 300 priests from the Visayas and Mindanao.

Capalla extolled the late DLSP exorcism released after the elections, which called on the people to be vigilant and reminded government officials to hold their positions in public office with proper integrity and dignity. Bernadette A. Pilar, PIR Visayas bureau

Joma: No peace talks until terror tag lifted

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PIR Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—Self-exiled communist leader Jose Ma. Sison has ruled out the resumption of peace talks with the government unless the "terrorist" tag on the Communist Party of the Philippines, New People's Army and himself is lifted.

Sison, CPP founder and chairman, stressed through e-mail that the National Democratic Front "is not willing to negotiate under duress."

"But duress comes from the evil character of the 'terrorist' tag and all its malicious consequences. Under the circumstances, the people themselves demand the immediate lifting of the new democratic revolution through protracted people's war," he said.

The NDF has postponed the scheduled peace talks in Oslo, Norway to September after the US government removed its listing of the CPP-NPA as a foreign terrorist organization.

Sison warned that if the government fails to comply with its obligation after so long, "then the postponement can become suspension. Further on, suspension can lead to termination of peace negotiations."

He accused the US, Britain and The Netherlands of responsibility for the removal from their tag on the CPP-NPA and himself to protect any challenge in their oil, gas and other monopoly interests in the country.

"They want to intimidate and force the capitulation of the NDF or the CPP or else push all out war against the revolutionary forces under the pretext of anti-terrorism. They are in fact sabotaging the GRP-NDF peace negotiations," Sison said.

Sison stressed that as long as the "terrorist" list persists, "it is obvious that the shared stubborn counter-revolutionary objective of the US and the GRP regime is to intimidate the NDF negotiators, consultants and other duly-authorized persons in the peace negotiations, threaten the ranks of the mass and destroy the revolutionary movement." With a report from Artemio Antig

Joker finds something to be amused about

By Michael Lim Ubac

ADMINISTRATION Sen. Juker Arroyo is amused by Malacañang's sudden enthusiasm to have him included in Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (Ledac) meetings.

"Malacañang now dangles a lollipop, a cheap deal. It's an afterthought, a rather amusing postscript," said the senator whose opposition to President Macapagal-Arroyo's tax reform proposals may have sparked what he calls the "sudden surge of bonhomie in considering me for an invite to the Ledac."

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said the other day Arroyo would likely be invited to the next meeting of the Ledac, an advisory council to the President to which Arroyo had never been invited although he is a long-time member of the administration coalition in the Senate.

But Arroyo, who has called administration officials advocating new taxes "tax terrorists," hinted that he might attack the invitation.

He said the expected changes in the Cabinet would render any Ledac meeting useless at this point.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2004
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday SPORTS

Boxer Camat bows out; swimmers also struggle

By Arnette T. Esguerra Jr.
News Editor

ATHENS—It was an inauspicious start for the Philippines in Day 5 of action in the 2004 Olympiad here Saturday.

The first of the boxing hopes was clashed by a lacking Russian veteran and three swimmers fell by the wayside in the giant wake of the world's swimming powerhouses. And another Filipino was struggling to remain intact in the shooting competition.

The initial setbacks transformed the Philippines' quest for an Olympic gold into a quixotic one with the burden of winning falling squarely on the shoulders of the three remaining boxers.

Middleweight Christopher Camat also became the first of the four boxers to be eliminated when he lost a one-sided fight to Russia's Gaydarbek Gaydarbekov on points.

The Russian, a silver medalist in the Sydney Olympics, methodically demolished Camat through four rounds with razor-sharp counter punches and wicked uppercuts. Although the 24-year old Filipino was outclassed by the Russian throughout, the fight was actually much closer than what the final score showed.

The judges gave the fight to Gaydarbekov 20-12, with the referee giving Camat the count on two occasions, in the third and fourth rounds when the Filipino was charging like a bull and the Russian feeding him off like a seasoned matador.

Miguel Molina, Miguel Moreno and Raphael Chua were eliminated in their respective events one after the other at the Olympic Aquatic Center where they had failed their hopes of even advancing to the next rounds of the swimming eliminations.

The usually semi-nerved Joiben Lloanio started off well, hitting all but nine of his 100 targets in the first 20 before fading in the second 20 to finish third last out of 35 entries in the first day of the free competition.

With a score of 87 after the first 75 targets, he might need a perfect score at the final 50 targets on Sunday to keep a slim chance of placing sixth and qualifying into the next round.

Swimming official Chito Rivera said Molina and Chua were both victims of Olympic jitters as first timers at the Games, but he was particularly happy with the performance of Moreno.

Rivera, who topped the final in seventh, he considers only a warm-up for his favorite 200m freestyle.

Molina was first to fall, finishing dead last in Heat No. 3 of the men's 400m individual medley and 34th overall in the field of 36. He clocked four minutes and 33.25 seconds...some 1.6 seconds off his Olympic qualifying time.

Moreno was next in the pool for the 400m freestyle and finished 30th among the 46 qualifiers. Moreno led all the way to top his heat in an event he does not consider his favorite.

"He did a very good job, considering that this is not his favorite event and considering he had to stay up late last night to join the Opening Ceremonies," Rivera said.

The performance joins the 13-year old Sydney Olympian "no target" for his favorite event, the 100m freestyle, Rivera said.

The 22-year old Chua qualified 100th in a field of 99 and fell short of his target of breaking the Philippine record of Philippine Sports Commission Chief Eric Buhain.

MIGUEL Morena in a winning moment

The 86th PGA Championship
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RP gets P4.7-B aid package from EU

By Jocsan Ating

THE PHILIPPINES will get an aid package worth P4.7 billion from the European Union fund two vital local projects in the next three years aimed at helping the country's marginalized sectors.

Nicolas Alfaro Secretary Delia Albert and Ambassador Johannes de Kok, head of the European Commission in the Philippines, signed the financing agreements on Tuesday.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. and Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo witnessed the signing.

Among the programs to be financed by the aid package is a project to give the poor more access to the justice system and another project to help the government fight corruption.

Response to RP priorities

Following the signing, Albert thanked De Kok for the EU's continuing help to the Philippines. The EC is the policy making and implementing body of the 25-member EU.

In a statement, de Kok said the aid is "in response to priorities set by the government, more specifically, in areas of governance, trade facilitation, combating terrorism, poverty reduction and peace and development."

The 18-month projects, worth 62 million euros, would be implemented in the next three years through a series of capacity-building programs and other support services geared towards improving good governance.

Barangays covered

The financing agreement on "Improving Governance to Reduce Poverty" has two sub-projects: Access to Justice for the Poor and Corruption Prevention.

To improve the poor's access to the justice system, some 3,000 poor barangays in 100 of the country's poorest municipalities in the country will be covered by the project. The project would introduce the following stakeholders: the Supreme Court and municipal Courts, the national police, the Philippine National Police Academy and the interior, social welfare and justice departments.

Sensitive police, judiciary

This project would also assist and institutionalize the information function to aid about the judiciary and make information accessible to the disadvantaged and empower people at the barangays, particularly women and children, to pursue justice.

It would also sensitize the police and the judiciary towards the needs of the poor and the rights of women and children and advocate legal reforms necessary to meet international commitments in terms of the rights of women and children.

To prevent corruption, the project aims to enhance the capacities of the Office of the Ombudsman and certain civil society organizations and government agencies.

Civil society groups

Specifically, it would train 3,200 managers in government agencies in identifying risk factors for corruption and how to tackle them. Another 800 members of civil society groups would be trained in procurement monitoring, participatory auditing and democracy watch.

The project would support build the capacities of the civil society to prevent corruption in cooperation with the Ombudsman, try to win a wide cooperation from the public in preventing and reporting corruption by providing information to different forms, work with other government agencies to reduce the risks of corruption in their ranks through training of managers and strengthen the management of the Ombudsman by establishing a management information system. With AFP report

(DUBHALLIT AMBASTACOS, Journalist-turned-career diplomat Antonio C. Modena presents his credentials to President Mladen Ilkazov as the new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Philippines to the State of Israel days before Israel honored a Filipino blast victim (See story below).

Israel honors Pinay blast victim

By Philip C. Tubeza

ISRAEL honored Filipina caregiver Maria Antonia Nalubos, who was killed in a deadly terrorist attack in Jerusalem last year.

Her name and that of 20 other victims were etched in ribbons on a bronze plaque and placed on a synagogue wall in the Holy City. The memorial was unveiled on Aug. 8 in a ceremony attended by high-ranking Israeli officials, including Jerusalem Mayor Uri Lupolianski and Philippine Ambassador to Israel Antonio C. Modena, as well as survivors of the blast and their relatives.

"During the service, a deeply moving and emotional Kadesh or Jewish prayer for the dead was sung for Antonia and the other victims by Rabbi David Rotlicki," Modena told Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Domingo Albert.

In Manila, Albert thanked the Israeli government for honoring Nalubos.

"I join the entire nation and [its] entire workforce all over the world in commending [the] Maria Antonia Nalubos, who paid the ultimate price in a bizarre land while seeking a better life for her family and loved ones back here in the Philippines," she said.

"Here is a testament to the indomitable Filipino spirit...This should be a fitting tribute to her to a modern day hero," she added.

Nalubos and 20 others were killed when a Palestinian man blew himself up in a crowded bus in the Jewish neighborhood of Shmuel Hanavi on Aug. 19, 2003.

Killed were four babies, three teenagers, 13 adults and the suicide bomber. Over 120 others were seriously injured. Some of the survivors, many of them maimed for life, attended the ceremony.

Nalubos, 43 and a native of Iloilo City, began working in Israel as a nurse's aide to support her family. She was one of thousands of Filipinos who rode the ill-fated bus.

"She was not immediately identified at the blast (but ripped the bus) was so strong," the BBA said.

"Israeli forensic investigators had to ask for her personal belongings so they could positively identify her (through DNA testing)," it added.

Australia, US take softball openers

ATHENS — The Australian veterans pitcher rallied in an relief and an American hitter before making her Olympic debut propelled their nations to victories on Saturday to start the softball competition.

The gold-medal favorite Australians were trapped Italy 7-3 after two innings due to the merry rule and Australia trailed out of the game with a 6-2 victory over Japan. Arrivederci Japan, where softball every monthly in the recruiting Greek east.

Australia's victory over Japan, who took the silver in Sydney in 2000, ended three wins convention as the team vied for the Americans, who later from ended Mexico, 1 in the world for 18 years and are looking for the third straight gold.

The two teams will play on Sunday.

Thunderbolts

Jennie Finch showed not only Zeus can rule thunderbolts in Greece. The former US olympian pitcher started the game for the Americans and dominated the Italians by striking out five of the nine batters she faced and set up scoring a hit.

The United States jumped on the Italian early as leadoff batter Shanedra Winter stretched out an infield hit and was later brought home by batting Lisa Fernandez on a solid double.

The United States put up three more runs in the second as Italy third baseman Laura Bernardi committed a throwing error that allowed Finch to score. Fernandez then singled to right field to bring home Jessica Mendoza.

Fernandez doubled and Jessica Mendoza tripled to start the fifth and final the American rally.

Olympic rules

Shortstop Shelley Barber drove in three more runs with a double to center with the bases loaded in the fifth, giving the United States a 7-3 lead. Under Olympic rules, a team that is scoring by running 10 runs after five innings is the winner.

In the first game on Saturday, Australian third baseman Brooke Thomson supplied the power with a two-run homer and reliever Tanya Harding came in as pitch in relief in the first inning, taking the steward after starter Brooke Wilkinson allowed a run of five singles. Wilkinson suffered five straight batters, according for injured court cramp.

Thomson slammed a pitch to the deep, on part of the Olympic softball stadium to center in 1 for fourth inning to put Australia ahead 3-2.

That was the fourth combined no-hitter in Olympic history, with Wilkinson taking part in three of them and finishing two.

Reuters

Tams trip Archers; Falcons check skid

By Jasmine W. Payo

EDWIN Asoro of NU fires a shot off Richard Alonzo of Adamson.

All-Star game in Cebu today

By Jean Mariano

Hawks a victory shy of sweep

4 WBF title bouts for Papa Sarreal

By Sabrina L. Lagumbay, Contributor

Manalo banners RP cue artists vs Taipei

Wendell writes

SPECTATOR

By S. Hendricks

FG assures chess support

COLLEGIATE BADMINTON SPONSOR: Del Monte Phils. Inc., as partner ship with the Philippine Badminton Association, is sponsoring the Del Monte's All Cup First Philippine Badminton Open that Septembe 14 to October. Signing the contract are (from left) Willie Soriano, Del Monte VP for Marketing; Amelia "Mary" Ramos, PBA president; Alec Castillo, Del Monte Phils. Inc. president, and Jaroslaw Gomez, category manager of Del Monte Pure Products. For inquiries, call 840-4444 and 247-8737 or log on to www.philbadminton.com.

DOJ backs libel raps vs Bro. Eli

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice has recommended the filing of four separate libel cases against television evangelist Eliseo "Bro. Eli" Soriano and 15 of his associates he alleged by defaming the Iglesia ni Cristo (INC) church and its ministers.

In a resolution, Acting Justice Secretary Ma. Merceditas Gutierrez junked Soriano's bid to have the charges dropped, saying there were probable cause to file the libel charges against Soriano and 15 members of the Ang Dating Daan (ADD) sect.

The INC and ADD are rival religious groups that air their own television programs. The two groups have been trading barbs, including name-calling, which resulted in the filing of libel charges against each other.

Gutierrez found merit in the INC's complaint.

"[E]vidences [of libel] are present in the instant case, by calling complainants 'gago, inutukin,' and 'tuhod-an ko ito (I'll groupies' "boring from," respondent Soriano shared[s] of xenophobists, who are ministers of the Iglesia ni Cristo, in the minds of any considerable and respectable class in the community," Gutierrez said.

Sequent founding choir Eugenia Apostol shows the remains of her husband, Jose Apostol, with her grandchildren at the Sementerio de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati.

'The Apostle' behind PDI founder dies

Businessmen want Cabinet men to stay

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NOTICE TO LAS PIÑAS REAL PROPERTY OWNERS

ALL LAS PIÑAS REAL PROPERTY OWNERS WHO MAY HAVE OVERLOOKED TO PAY/SETTLE THEIR REAL ESTATE TAX DUE FOR THE PAST YEARS ARE ADVISED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY PAYMENTS IMMEDIATELY TO AVOID INCLUSION IN THE ANNUAL AUCTION OF REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES OF DELINQUENT TAXPAYERS.

REALTY OWNERS WITH THE OUTSTANDING TAX DUES HAVE THE CHANCE TO SETTLE THEIR UNPAID TAXES UNTIL OCTOBER 31, 2004.

THE CITY OF LAS PIÑAS IS SET TO AUCTION DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES BY THE END OF NOVEMBER 2004.

Chinese shooter wins first gold

WHILE Michael Phelps' bid for history leaves largely over the Athens Olympics, Du Li-dan's her way to the medal's tally in the same the Games' first gold medalist.

Sets Olympic record in huge turnaround

ATHENS, Greece—With a dramatic turnaround on the last shot, Li Du of China wins the first gold medal of the Summer Games.

Li, who trailed throughout the final round, scored 10.6 on her final attempt in the women's 10-meter air rifle, edging Russia's Lioubov Galkina, 103.6-103.5. Galkina got only 9.7 on her last shot—her lowest mark.

Antoaneta Kostova (the 2003 world champion from the Czech Republic won the bronze.

On their final attempts, Li shot after Galkina. When her winning score was posted, the crowd, which had previously held its applause until after all competitors had finished, erupted. Li's overall score of 502 points set an Olympic record.

Galkina appeared to have Athens' first gold medal within her grasp. After settling her own Olympic record with a 399 to qualifying, she led Li by 1.4 points with just three shots left. But Li, who started with a 9.4, scored less than 10.0 seconds before her final attempt.

"To start with, I was a bit nervous," Li said through a translator. "But I controlled myself and I was confident I'd win in the end."

Li's comeback was even more impressive because it came against Galkina, who was ranked No. 1 in the world coming into the event. Li was ranked No. 9, but after finishing second in the 2002 world championships, she knew she could compete with anybody.

"I'm fully confident with myself wherever I am," Galkina, No. 1 in the world in the airpool standings, over the Kazakhstan in Jan. 2000. Afterward, she said she wasn't following the standings during the Games—but she admitted that after a near perfect qualifying round, her performance slipped a bit.

"Obviously during qualifying shots, I had more control," she said through a translator. "During the finals, maybe I was a bit of lost in somewhere, but I'm still pleased with the result."

In the women's 10-meter air rifle, shooters take 40 shots to qualifying, worth up to 10 points each. Then, the top eight advance to the finals, where their scores are added to the preliminary totals to determine the winner. AP

Phelps, Thorpe in strong starts

ATHENS, Greece—Michael Phelps made his first dig in The Olympic pool look easy.

He began his quest to break Mark Spitz's record of seven Olympic gold medals in the Games' endurance in smashing performances for the 400-meter individual medley with a time of 4 minutes, 13.29 seconds—well off his world record of 4:08.41.

He was to return Saturday night for the eight-meet final in the crowd-pleasing freestyle to win his first gold medal of the Athens Games. Americans swimmers have finished 1-2 in the event at the last two Olympics.

"I'm glad the meet is finally here," Phelps said. "I felt comfortable and in control. I'm not worried about time. I just want to get my hand on the wall first."

Eric Thorpe, the superstar of the Sydney Games, settled for being "the second-fastest qualifier behind Australian teammate Grant Hackett in the 400 freestyle.

"I'm pretty confident," Thorpe said. "It was a quality swim for both me and Grant."

Hackett finished in 3:46.28. Thorpe, the world-record holder, was next in 3:46.55.

"It's always nice to be together," Hackett said. "You want to race the best in the field. You want to be right next to him."

Thorpe fell off the starting blocks and was disqualified at the Australian trials in March. But teammates Craig Stevens gets up his fourth in the 400 free so Thorpe would have a chance to defend his Olympic title.

This time, he didn't fall in, but Thorpe was one of the slowest swimmers off the blocks.

"I was trying to be last off the blocks this morning, so I'll be first off the blocks tonight," he said, jokingly.

On the dock, though, Thorpe was all business. He walked out, barefoot, wearing a full black body suit, with his cap and goggles already on. Most entertainers entered lanes of dueling, jackets and shoes in the moments before it was.

AP

CHINESE basketball star Yao Ming, at 7-foot-6, dwarfed everybody else in the opening ceremonies.

King of birds eyed as new SEAG mascot

By Mars Anthony Reyes

THE PHILIPPINE Eagle—with its sharp talons and powerful wingspan—has emerged down-and-fundamentalist, big-eyed woman.

The motivated economics state as the official mascot of the XXV SeaGames. Many Games-minded because co-operation to the SEAG organizing committee reportedly wants to replace it with the large republican of prey.

Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain said members of the Philco—Chat Salazar "Chito" Puglisinguson postmaster, chief, Subaru "Dino" Puglisinguson postmaster, chief, Subaru "Dino" Puglisinguson postmaster, chief, Subaru "Dino

Bandit's death disputed

al police Deputy Director Gerardo Tuason Gil, said he is convinced that the provincial governor was "strangled," like those of his followers, during the 6 a.m. attack that lasted for 15 minutes.

Cautious

"Khaira Tahir and more than 10 of his men were killed in the air strike," according to the official report by the 1907 Northern Mindanao Task Force, a copy of which was obtained by the Inquirer.

Gil, Agustin Dreza-ala, commander of the Army's 604th Infantry Brigade based in Sultan Kudarat province, sounded a bit more cautious. Speaking on radio DZMD in Cotabato city Dreza-ala said: "Although reports that they have received reports about his death, we cannot yet confirm it because, in the first place, we have yet to verify. Unless there is physical evidence, he remains alive."

The MILF's Rahalio disputed reports of Tahir's death.

MILF version

"The received information from our people on the ground that he was not killed. He was not seriously injured during the attack," Rahalio told the Inquirer by phone.

But Rahalio said the MILF did not know Tahir's exact whereabouts now.

He said he doubted that Tahir could be martyred.

"He hasn't he had a diabetic condition and that it would be difficult to treat your wounds if you were diabetic," Rahalio said.

But Dreza, speaking on DZMD, Rahalio confirmed that the house of Tahir was among those hit in the military bombing but there was no immediate information if Tahir was inside the house at the time.

Earlier military reports said Tahir had been having difficulty moving around because of his ill-ness.

Rahalio said MILF rebels were helping authorities determine if Tahir was among those killed in the bombing.

"That's what our group is doing right now. They are investigating in the area if Tahir was killed," Rahalio said.

Search for cadavers

He said the area attacked by the military was difficult to reach because it was an islet in the vast Liguasan Marsh.

The islet is between Barangay Lambac in 56 Sitio Ilian town and Barangay Malpakan in Datu in Barangay town.

Tahir's hometown—part of the Maguindanao side of the marsh, one of the strongholds of the MILF.

Air-to-ground MG520 helicopters raised rockets on the islet, where Tahir and his men had set up camp, confirming reports about the Pentagon death toll were around.

Confirmed

Police said they confirmed 15 Pentagon gunmen were killed but their identities were not immediately available.

Dreza-ala said the military was also trying to recover any cadavers.

Some Scout Rangers stationed along the Rio Grande de Mindanao and the Tamontaka Diversion were standing by the river banks just in case bodies were carried by the waters.

Pentagon's kidnap victims

Rahalio had a slightly lower casualty figure among Pentagon members.

"Our losses in the area have confirmed that 14 Pentagon members were killed but we doubt that the military could find any bodies because Muslims immediately bury their dead," he told the Inquirer.

Dreza-ala said kidnap victims Zeilla Bansil, a self-styled disciple-cor seized in February in Lambayong, Sultan Kudarat and Cecilia Ho City car dealer Norman Ho, who were abducted in December 2003, were not with Tahir's group at the time of the attack.

He believed the victims were being held by another group of Pentagon gunmen.

Long-wanted

Tahir had long been wanted by the government. The military earlier reported he had a bounty of P1 million but Dreza-ala said the correct figure was P500,000.

Tahir's killing, if confirmed, would be a big accomplishment to the Arroyo administration's effort against kidnapping, particularly against groups that prey on foreigners and other high-profile victims.

Among Pentagon's victims were Italian priest Giuseppe Pierantoni, five Chinese engineers and a South Korean woman tourist.

The United States has listed Pentagon as a terrorist organization.

Separate archives showed Tahir had been found guilty of kidnapping Dr. Vicente Cavalida Jr., engineer Eduardo Cavalida and Cheryl Ingalla in General Santos City in July 1999.

Bolted jail

He was subsequently arrested but escaped with other prisoners after MILF rebels attacked the General Santos jail in November 2000.

Friday's attack was the result of a six-month intelligence build-up against the Pentagon before pinning last February.

Gil said he decided to give the go-signal for the offensive as soon as the task force had ascertained the exact positions of Tahir and his men.

He has close MILF leaders personally confirmed with the PNP for the attack, the official said.

Tip from informants

The attack came months after the Pentagon, with the help of some disgruntled members of the MILF, abducted at least six evangelical workers in Lanao del Norte.

All the victims were kept in separate safehouses by Pentagon members in the Liguasan Marsh.

The PNP said the Armed Forces previously had problems conducting recent operations, considering the strategic location of the marsh.

An initial assault from the air would make government troops an easy target since suspects hiding in the marsh could easily spot and fire at them. This explained why the Friday attack was made by air.

MILF disowns Tahir

The hideout of Tahir, Lucero said, was discovered as a result of a tip from residents in the area.

Seven MG520 helicopters swooped down for bombing runs after which ground forces from the 6th Infantry Division moved in for clearing operations.

Lucero said the MILF leadership was informed of the operations through the Ad Hoc Joint Coordination Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities (AHJCCH).

Tahir was discovered by the MILF as one of its members after he engaged in kidnapping activities. Read a report from Inquirer *L. Bonoan, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

GMA: Hand of steel vs Pentagon justified

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday justified the use of the "hand of steel" against 17 "Pentagon" kidnap gang members killed by the military in Maguindanao and branded as just retribution the death sentence meted out to the 19 Abu Sayyaf members involved in the 2001 Lamitan siege in Basilan.

"I commend the military for the operations conducted with all collateral damage to the civilian community and without prejudicing the peace process," the President said. "On the other hand, we have used the hand of steel in finishing off the Pentagon kidnap gang," she said.

The 17 members of the Pentagon gang were killed during a military operation in the Liguasan Marsh in Central Mindanao.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye credited the Moro Islamic Liberation Front for "cooperating" and "helping" the military in the operation against the Pentagon members.

Successful operation

"This is part of our aggressive stand with the MILF that they still help the military whenever the terrorists' lairs," Bunye said in an ABS-CBN interview.

"So in this respect we can really consider that the operation was very successful and our Presidente extended her congratulations to the military and is thanking the MILF for cooperating in this operation," Bunye said.

Bunye said the operation augured well for the resumption of peace talks between the government and the MILF.

"We believe that the peace negotiations will resume once again in Kuala Lumpur. We are just waiting for the timetable from the Malaysian government which is hosting the negotiations," Bunye added.

Mr. Bunye was equally pleased with the conviction of 19 members of the Abu Sayyaf bandit group who were involved in the abduction of hospital workers in Lamitan, Basilan.

"The conviction of the ASG members in Basilan is symbolic of the complete restoration of criminal justice in that province after years of past inattentiveness," the President said in a statement.

Triumph of democracy

"This is a triumph of democracy over crime," she said.

On Friday, Regional Trial Court Judge Jaime Santos of Isabela City, Basilan, handed out death sentences to 19 Abu Sayyaf members involved in the abduction of hospital workers during the siege of the first June 2001. Twenty workers were held hostage in Lamitan on June 2, 2001.

Mr. Arroyo lauded the judiciary "for this singular act of just retribution, done with determined prosecution."

"These acts of justice and swift retribution will reinforce our resolve to remain the peace in Mindanao and pave the way for assisting progress and uplift in the conflict-affected areas," she said.

Preparations in place for release of 2 soldiers next week

With these preparations already in place, the Abu Sayyaf Group may release Army Lt. Ronald Fidelino and Pfc. Rommel Brizuela as early as "Aug. 17 or 18," stated rebel negotiator Datu Jalmahdi told the Inquirer yesterday.

"The release is now in motion, the process is ongoing," chief government negotiator Silvestre Bello III said in a separate interview.

Bello said the ASG had promised to give the government a two-day advance notice before freeing the soldiers, and that was what the authorities were now waiting for.

Officials were still clinging to a hope—however small—that the two soldiers would be freed in time for the second birthday of Fidelino's daughter Alexie.

In a phone interview from Jolo, Jalmahdi said he had already notified Dr. Ignacio Antonino of the International Committee of the Red Cross about the release procedure for Fidelino and Brizuela.

ICRC as guardian

The ICRC is the body mandated to be the "guardian" under the Geneva Convention and international humanitarian law to supervise it.

If the Red Cross team still receive the prisoners of war from the MNLF and conduct a medical examination and a briefing on how they were treated in captivity, before turning them over to the government, Jalmahdi said.

The rebels are releasing them on humanitarian grounds despite delays caused by government's evasiveness of its former hope interpretation of military/police operations, which took effect on July 27, he stressed.

"This is a clear order for the suspension of hostilities, which covered the provinces of Sulu and Tawi-Tawi, but was supposed to end today but both sides agreed on Friday night to extend the cease up to last week after the expiree release, Jalmahdi said.

Safe withdrawal

He said the one-week pact-release period was intended to ensure the "safe withdrawal of the MNLF-unified force" holding the two Army captives.

Jalmahdi said that MNLF units in the covered areas had been ordered to observe their part of the extended ceasefire.

"This is with the understanding and verification of the (MNLF) Nur Misuari Command in Jolo," he said. But the Armed Forces and the Philippine National Police are in full compliance (with the ceasefire)," he said.

Asked what the implication of all this would be on the low unified peace negotiations in Kuala Lumpur, Jalmahdi said they say that this "grand gesture on our part should have a positive effect" on the negotiations.

"Every gesture like this on both sides should improve the atmosphere," he added.

The officers were captured last Feb. 23 after commando guerrillas ambushed their convoy in Tumahubo town in Canarchico Sur.

Bello said a Monday (tomorrow) freedom for the soldiers was still "technically possible."

If they were not freed tomorrow, Bello said the MNLF would still have until Friday to keep its promise.

Bello said on Friday night that the MNLF had promised to release their captives between Aug. 15 and 20.

Interviewed on DZRH radio broadcast, Jalandoni said the government should respond to the reversal release of Fidelino and Brizuela with the release of political prisoners, including the "Manila-as 8" and the alleged killers of 15 Army officer Jesus Boac.

With a report from Alexie Pepa

Coast Guard beckons . . .

126th squadron of the PCG Administration, facilitated the fleet "adoption" in 2002.

Lane's squadron was requested by the local government of the Province at the mouth of the Ilog River, a Spanish lighthouse built in 1845 and reportedly the oldest in the country and in Asia.

Through the squadron's efforts, the grounds surrounding the light station are well maintained and proudly display a marker of the National Historical Institute.

Also adopted by MSOS but not under the Augusty Lighthouse is Cabra and the Light Station in Cape Bojeador, Ilocos Norte.

20 lighthouse eyes

The Faro de Punta de Malabrigo commands a panoramic view of Babuyan Bay and Mindoro island and is built on the southern end of the province of Batangas.

It is one of the 20 lighthouses built in the Philippines during the Spanish colonial period.

Completed in October 1893, the lighthouse guided ships passing the country's "divide Island" passage of the San Bernardino Strait heading for Manila or the ports of Iloilo and Cebu.

Through the past century mariners have seen it glowing beneath the moon and standing strong like a loyal sentry through raging storms and fierce sea battles, in light shining in the darkness as a symbol of hope and trust.

According to a paper written by Manuel Blanares Lopez del Castillo-Recio, plans for the lighthouse were prepared by Guillermo Brockman and were finalized on Jan. 31, 1891. It was approved on April 15 of that year, and the work started on Nov. 28, 1892, with a Chinese contractor named Zon Garcia.

The design of the lighthouse followed the traditional layout of tower, pavilion, service building and enclosed courtyard.

The tower, mostly entirely of bricks, was designed along the line of the Cabo Santiago as well as those found in the islet of San Bernardino.

Raised in front, with the lower third tapering inward (thus solid as a buttress support) for the mass of the whole shaft), the tower is attached to the pavilion by the rear verandah, facsimile thing being all the way to the balcony, which is supported by a decorative grille, below the eastern flank.

Subtle changes

The Holdridge-Lighthouse has undergone subtle changes.

It still sits in quiet isolation but no longer appears like a place that time forgot even if its iron entrance gate to the courtyard are often closed. It even appears to be freshly painted.

Some perceived hotspots: lamps are now used to lamp rooms on the second floor, which are used as chow. Its rooms are empty but the wooden shutters and doors are intact, although there are graffiti on the walls and holes in the floor.

The massive mahogany cabinet (where lighthouse keeping back in 1891 are stored), copper and bronze lanterns, a clock and other blackouts relics are on display at the Museo de Faro Salita Sangley Point.

Visitors welcome

Capt. Gene Sutile of the PCG will be happy to entertain visitors.

And for new generations do not say goose and drum up support...it will do everyone good to recognize the crucial role that the Maldivegas Lighthouse has played and its relevance in today's society.

With the help of various documents and a little imagination, it offers us a sense of a past we admire and celebrate, imagery and endless stories to make it come alive.

For inquiries on how adopt-a-Lighthouse Project, call Capt. Alfredo Thamsen at 527-8965 or 0917-8332094 or Capt. Robert Lane at 524-1417 or 0917-8908936.

Missing tycoon shows up . . .

doing in his son in Chinese and set expectations and shaking his head his down or has someone he story to make sure he's not lying.

The memo then definitely schooled him out of the room.

Gilbert confirmed that he was not keeping his father against the latter's will, and that he was not preventing his mother and sisters from seeing the old man.

The Ong tycoons had taken out newspaper advertisements stating there offer of P1 million to anyone who could provide information on Pennisi's whereabouts.

They said Gilbert had taken Pennisi to see an "unknown financier" five months ago.

The ad appealed: "Please show us our father."

'Very well-planned'

Gilbert's sisters and their mother rushed to the Quezon Metro when they learned that he was going to present Francisco to the media.

Cases told the Inquirer in a phone interview that they got on the 2:30 p.m. flight on Friday, since had been whisked out of the conference venue by that time.

She said Gilbert must have been tipped off by the 10 or so body-guards stationed in the hotel lobby who were carrying handheld radios.

Grace said they hurried back down to the lobby only to see a fleet of cars emerging from the basement, presumably with Francisco in one of the cars.

"It was very well-planned, like they knew we were going out there. We were not able to see him," she said, adding that she had recognized some of the body-guards as having worked at the 2G offices.

Henderson also said Pennisi had to be limited to a court battle with his son and to hear his "lies."

Upon their house in Green Island, one to him and his family, and this is other he does. *I gave everything to him. I cannot understand why he is still technically possible.*

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'Like a prisoner'

The Ong tycoons said they had not seen Francisco since March 17.

Grace said they would pursue their court against Gilbert even after their petition for habeas corpus was denied.

In Gilbert's claim that his mother left the family home last March 3 to move in with his daughter without reason, Sienna had this to say: "We is telling lies. I left the house because I was like a prisoner in that house. I could not come and go as I pleased."

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'Restless, dangerous lies'

"Since and for all, we can put a stop to the restless, dangerous lies that have been peddled around by irresponsible personalities about me and my father," Gilbert said in the press conference.

"We have kept quiet as long as we could but we are now compelled to face the media to assure everyone that my father is safe," he said.

He appealed to his siblings and mother to respect his father's privacy and dignity and desist from making any statements to the media that would endanger the latter's safety and well-being.

Lim Mondragon, Gilbert's lawyer and spokesperson, said Judge Severino Sacdalan of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court had dismissed with finality earlier the petition for a writ of habeas corpus filed by Sienna Ong and her daughter Grace.

Gilbert is the younger son and middle child of the family.

His older brother, Enrique, unsuccessfully tried in Tagaytay is not involved in the feud and is said to be also estranged from him.

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Humble beginnings

Francisco had humble beginnings sweeping floors and clean-ing buildings.

From his savings, he started a small trading business that grew to be Northern Islands Co. Inc.

Gilbert earlier said his siblings, whom he claimed were Canadian citizens, could legally claim against him because he got 60 percent of the shares in the family company.

He said his father, in recognition of his dedication, sold him 60 percent of the shares in 1988, thereby giving him control of the company.

'Lizzie McGuire's' Fil-Am friend arrives to promote RP

By Julier Ledesma-Sandoval

LIZZIE McGuire's best friend is in town and she is a Filipina as well.

Seventeen-year-old Filipino-American singer-actress Liliana Vergara Nuno, or simply Lalaine, is best known for her role as Miranda Sanchez, the best friend of Lizzie McGuire, played by Hilary Duff.

The now debuted Disney hit series made Lalaine and her multi-talented hair famous. She was a special guest of President Macapagal-Arroyo at Malacañang yesterday.

Ms. Arroyo congratulated the lively tween for her achievements as an actress, dancer, singer, composer and for being a good model for the young generation.

In 1997, Lalaine played Little Cosette for almost a year in the Broadway production of "Les Miserables." In 1999, she created the role of Kate in the made-for-TV Disney movie "Annie." before landing the glamorous role of Miranda in "Lizzie McGuire" in 2001.

This year, she starred in her first independent movie titled "Frannie's Lunch."

She is currently a singing sensation on Radio Disney, where her single "You Wish" topped 10 charts. She is scheduled to release her solo album at year's end.

"I'm sure you will be (more) successful. We Filipinos are very proud of you and (miss you) so much," Ms Arroyo told Lalaine at the Palace's Music Room yesterday.

The actress is in the country shooting "Flipside," featuring a young Fil-Am's journey home to rediscover her roots, values and traditions.

"Flipside" is a one-season 13-episode program that will start airing in October in Asia and North America via The Filipino Channel. The show aims to reach out to the younger generation of Filipinos abroad, and Emily Abrera, chair of CCI Asia Television Inc., the show's producer.

Lalaine could be the "relevant roots" that would tell young Filipinos to rediscover their culture, and Abrera, who's also chair of McCann Erickson/Philk.

"It's like a documentary, a crime-chaser-cum-lifestyle-Philippine-showbiz-but-still-true," Abrera said. "Flipside" is a co-production of Living Solo Channel—which director's late husband Celso produced—the fast fast tie-up and Philippine Airlines.

Lalaine was accompanied to Malacañang by her mother Lilia Pena Abrera and CCAE officers John Carl Magno, Lourdes Bandoc, Michael Patrick Lee, Aileen Antiz, Evelyn Reyes and Jan Jan Garagi (vice president Ms. Nimfa Enriquez).

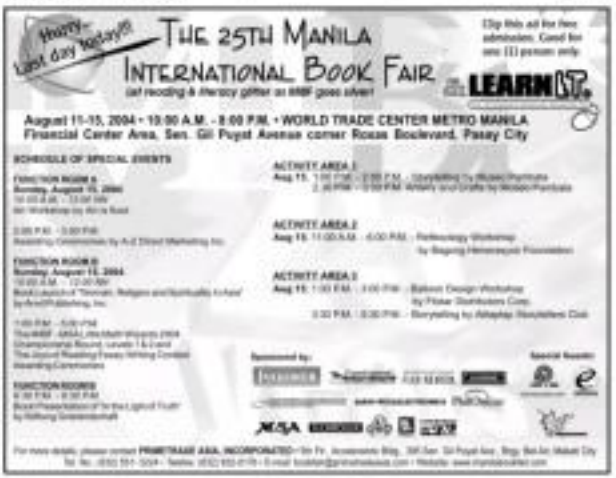
Born in California, Lalaine last visited the country in 1995 when she was eight. She is convenient in Filipino.

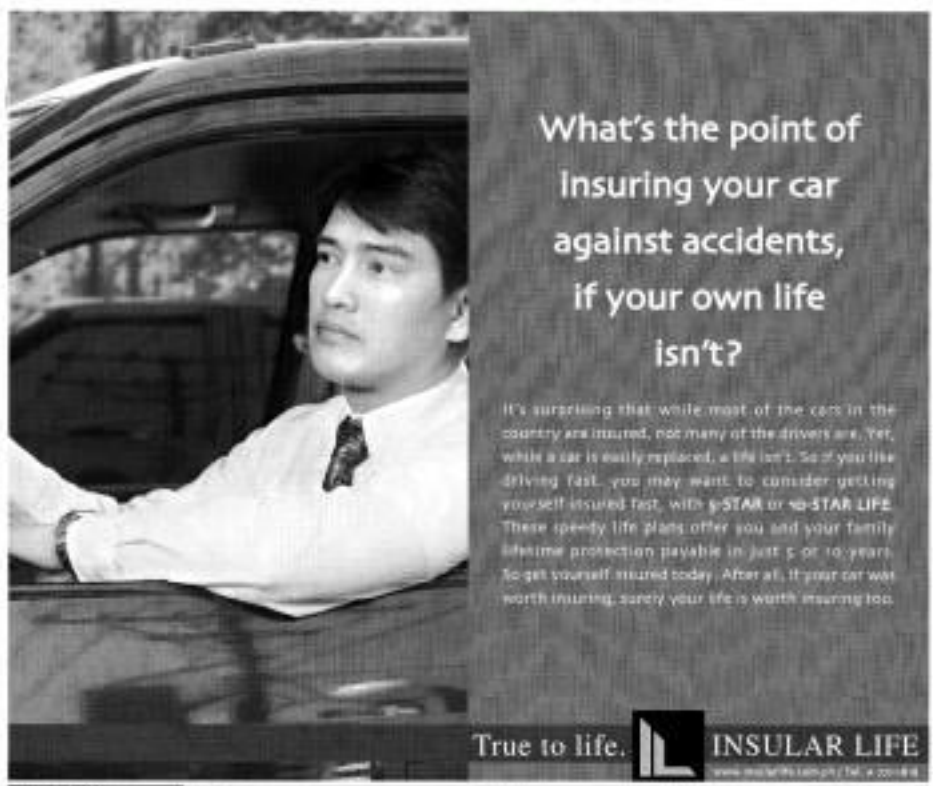
Since arriving here on Aug. 5, she has toured Intramuros, shopped at Greenbelt, Makati, Greenhills, San Juan, and Quiapo, Manila, where she bought a wooden rosary bracelet.

Today, she plans to shower in the scenic towns of Tagaytay and Caliraya, in her mother's home province of Batangas. She will also visit Tagaytay Highlands and Nature Spa in Sagaytay City.

Ms Arroyo asked Lalaine not to forget her cultural roots, to find fulfillment in her work, and to help promote the Philippines as a tourist destination.

LALAINE marches up to her mom Lilia Pena at Malacañang where they were received by President Arroyo.





OLYMPIC PAGEANT

Fusion of ancient rites and modern technology

By Ralph Sterling and Alastair Macdonald

ATHENS—Greece staged a triumphant pageant to welcome home the Olympic Games on Friday, weaving ancient traditions and modern technology that lifted spirits after a drugs scandal engulfed the home nation's team athletics.

By the time the Olympic flame was lit, three hours of music, dance and fireworks had helped dispel lingering doubts about Athens' readiness and taken initials off gold medal sprinter Costa Kenteris, expected in court the next, who lay instead in hospital having ingestion and disease for missing a drug test.

As bells rang out and the doves and 6 tonnes staged the futuristic new Olympic Stadium for the first Summer Games since the Sept. 11 attacks, Olympics chief Jacques Rogge urged athletes to **set an example for world peace.** Pointedly, he told them to "forswear the drugs that have so tarnished sport's image.

In an age where the televised spectacular has become almost commonplace, one of thousands of spectators gasped in delight **through the...lens the moment a** boy aboard a paper boat sailed across a flooded arena in a video greeting from the Russian and American crew of the International Space Station.

Billions of viewers around the globe saw the cinema of 300 rowers in her parade behind their flags.

The troubled nations of Iraq and Afghanistan won the biggest cheers, many of aggrieved war band holding North and South Koreans and there was many applause for the big US team, despite American fears of a **chilly welcome.**

The 75,000-seat stadium is the **centerpiece of an impressive array** of venues, completed in time sport to host the world's biggest sporting festival after years of political wrangling and international concern that delays might scupper the Games.

"The country that gave birth to athleticism welcomes you," said the announcers before Greek President Costis Stephanopoulos declared the Games open in the city where they were revived in 1896 and the country that created them nearly 3,000 years ago.

Windsurfer Nikos Kaballo triumphs, a gold medalist in Athens eight years ago, lit the Olympic flame that will burn throughout the next 16 days of **action in 28 sports.**

He was by all accounts a last **minute** for Kenteris, the Olympic 200 meters champion who had plunged home fans into despair by missing an out-of-Games drugs test and then evading his motorbike, leaving his participation in doubt.

He joining partner and gunner-up on the bike, Katerina Thanou, the 100 meters silver medalist in Sydney four years ago, also missed a test and also the first injured in hospital.

Games organizers gave the pair a three-day reprieve, rescheduling a hearing for Monday that will determine whether they are allowed to compete when the athletics competition begins next Friday.

A bombastic if dream had examof close to the opening ceremony of the pageant. Amid torchlight and fireworks, giant sculptures appeared above the statues of the arena.

A living frieze of Greek myth and history preceded by, the voice of opera diva Maria Callas echoed around the stadium and hearts erected a 1004 bells.

Many of the 10,300 athletes streamed in for the traditional march of the competitors, with tiny Saint Lucia—Agia Loukia in Greek—taking alphabetical pride of place at their head.

Political leaders and assorted heads from around Europe and the wider world watched the proceedings. Former US Presidents George Bush were in Greece to join world leaders in a show of unity behind the Olympic ideal of peace.

Prime Minister Recep Erdogan of Turkey, Greece's old foe, said he would bring a message of global cooperation, and Yu Lili, athletics were among those given a warm welcome by the crowd.

Organizers expected four billion viewers for coverage.

Jhane Arthur the ceremony, Rogge's International Olympic Committee (IOC) quoted the best-ever budget embarrassment by granting "Greece Lightning" fireworks and Frances more time to explain why they missed Thursday's dress rehearsal.

The twists and turns of the drama stunned Greece as television and radio stations broke into program with the latest news on the nation's heroes.

Officials said neither was seriously hurt but had been ordered to stay in medical care for at least two more days.

The Greek National Olympic Committee said it would hold a special meeting on Saturday to discuss the affair. REUTERS

GAEA&Ath dominate the drama of the opening ceremonies attended by 10,000 athletes representing 201 countries.

Olympic numbers

+ 28—Number of sports in the Athens Olympic calendar
+ 35—Number of competence venues
+ 10,500—Total number of athletes
+ 3,500—Number of officials
+ 22,000—Number of media persons in print and broadcast
+ 40,000...Number of security personnel working around the clock
+ 45,000—Number of volunteers in the organizing committee
+ 5.5 million...Number of expected ticketed spectators
+ 4 billion—Estimated number of television viewers worldwide

Artemis T. Engracia Jr.

END-BEATING Christine of Rag became in honor Hannes Brie from another honor Christopher Cooper, who was pulled out a heartbeats before the marching that because he had to fight the next day. REUTERS

Pinoys looked like winners; then defeat

From page B1

marched near the tailend of the parade of athletes during the opening ceremony Friday, and if you're wondering why, blame it on the Greek alphabet.

The Philippine marched 197th—a fifth to last—among 201 delegations marching in alphabetical order, the Greek way. The Philippines starts with the Greek letter "phi" which is the 20th of the 24 letters of the Greek alphabet.

Greece may not start with the first letter alphabet, or the last letter omega, but its flag marched first and last during the ceremonies, according to the tradition of the modern Olympics. First in line of the ancient games and last as host of the present one.

Basket of surprises

The Olympic Village housing most of the 10,500 athletes and officials and the Media Village following the more than 22,000 media men are a strange blend of images representing all of the world's major languages and several minor ones.

In the mess halls, the hosts and the press and broadcast centers, people speak different languages, which sound Greek to everyone else.

To lend a touch of ancient history to the 28th Olympiad here, organizers have brought the action to the city of Olympia, where the Games were believed to have been born around 776 B.C., and athletes were believed to have competed in only one event—the stadium race covering about 170 meters.

Ancient Olympia

As in ancient times, only one event—the decathlon for men and women—will be held at the Ancient Olympia Stadium, some 250 kilometers south of Athens. It will also be the first time that women—banned from the site in ancient times for religious reasons—will be competing in the ancient Olympiad.

It was in Olympia that the Olympic flame was lit from the sun by round virgins earlier this year before traveling around the world and returning to Athens for the lighting of the Olympic flame at the Olympic Stadium.

Footsteps of history

Unknown to Filipino distance runner Eduardo Buenaventa, he will be retracing the footsteps of history when he runs the marathon race on Aug. 29, the closing day of the Athens Olympiad.

The race will be run along the approximate route where two Greek runners—Pheidippides and Spyridon Louis...made their historic runs more than 2,000 years apart.

Pheidippides, a messenger, ran the distance between Marathon and Athens in 490 B.C. to deliver to the Athenians the news of the victory of Athens over the invading Persians in the battle of Marathon. He died immediately after delivering the news, an apparent victim of what modern medicine now calls a heart attack.

The final run came almost a century before the ancient games died—they were deemed pagan and were banned by the Byzantine emperor, Theodosius I.

Revival in 1896

Two millennia after Pheidippides' heroic run, Spyridon Louis similarly became a Greek national hero when he won the marathon event in the revival of the Games for the modern era in 1896. The marathon ended at the Panathinaiko Stadium with the Greeks celebrating the fitting return of the local marathoner.

This year, the marathon will also finish at Panathinaiko instead of the Olympic Stadium in follow the original 1896 course and to lend history to the event.

How to be lazy without really trying

Foreign Ad

Petrou, "a sort of slacker mentality where other members of society are seen as responsible for us."

"Before me, mid-level executives, white-collar workers, were drawn, the damned of the tertiary sector," Maire wrote in his slim volume, which is quickly becoming a national bestseller.

He argued that France's unified corporate culture no longer offered cradle-and-life employment prospects of success, to "who can spread gangrene through the system from inside?"

The book is a counterpoint to efforts by the country's center-right government to topple the damage done to French work habits by decades of socialist administration, which enacted a 35-hour workweek. It is gaining in popularity just as the International Monetary Fund is urging Europeans to work longer and harder to soften their anti-economics.

The French already work less than people in most other developed countries...on average, more than 300 fewer hours a year than Americans, according to one study.

Typical

In many ways, Maire is typical of France's intelligentsia—sociallyminded and underemployed. He studied economics and international relations at the country's elite National Foundation of Political Sciences (or Sciences Po), before running odd jobs in psychoanalysis.

But she works just 20 hours a week writing dry economic reports at the state telecom calling like-minded on France, for which she is paid about $2,000 a month.

Part of that achievement was slow and came less from ambition than exhaustion.

"French corporations are not meritocracies," Maire said.

Idleness remains as their jobs and retirement, stymieing the promotion of those below them, yet a system of patronage and stiff legal protections makes it difficult for employers to fire anyone, she said.

Like Louis XIV

Fans of such magazines as France's favorite-obsessed society have produced elaborate rituals to keep people busy, Maire said, adding:

"Work is organized a little like the court of Louis XIV: very ornamental and very ritualized, so that people don't deny are working effectively when they are not."

Her salaried Twitter class keeps up what she sees as exhausting charade, people who dislike what they do but, as she put it, discreetly disengage.

If done correctly—and her book gives a few tips, such as looking busy by always carrying a stack of files—few co-workers will notice, and those who do will be too envious and about sacking the boat to complain.

Given the difficulty of firing employees, frustrated superiors are most likely to move such subversive workers up their ore, Maire said. New York Times News Service

Bobby Fischer seeks RP chess clubs' support

BAGUIO CITY—Reclusive chess grandmaster Bobby Fischer called a Baguio radio station on Thursday to ask Filipino chess clubs to protest his detention in Japan.

Fischer told Nilo Miranda, station manager of Bombo Radyo, in a live broadcast at 7 p.m. that Washington would wait for the opening of the Olympic Games on Saturday before he is "spirited" back to the United States (where he said he expected to be "tortured and murdered").

He asked Filipinos in search to the US Embassy in Manila to demand his release.

The 30-minute interview emanated from a public pay phone near Fischer's holding cell, where the grandmaster has been detained the past 20 days, Miranda said.

Fischer was stopped by authorities at the Narita International Airport on his way to the Philippines on July 30 after finding that he was using a canceled US passport.

He is wanted in the US for violating sanctions against Yugoslavia when he played a match there in 1992 against Russian Boris Spassky.

Fischer said the business in 2001 during one of his visits to Baguio that he had traveled the world to chide Arab and US officials who, he said, were out to destroy him.

"Fischer had been broadcasting his tirades (against America, Israel and the world Jewish community) through overseas calls he made to Bombo Radyo for over a year before he flew here," Miranda said.

Fischer requested his tirades on Thursday during the Bombo Radyo broadcast. Fischer also wanted his (or as Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi for his present difficulties.

"I asked (Fischer) how he was. When he first phoned me (off the air), he sounded very sluggish, very sad. But he assured me he was being treated well (in Japan)," Miranda said.

Fischer almost pounced on Miranda when he noticed the broadcaster's public "okay" for a lack of sympathy for the chess genius' legal troubles.

—Nikko Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Want to be a cop? Sign up by Aug. 31

TUG PHILIPPINE National Police Academy (PNPA) will nominate its Cadet Admission Test (CAT) for its four-year Bachelor of Science in Public Safety courses this 30 to 33 deputy nated test centers nationwide.

Qualifications are, male or female physically and mentally fit; between 17 and 22 years of age by April 1, 2005; single; high school graduate or candidate for graduation by March 2005; and 162.5 cm or height for males and 157.5 cm for females.

CAT application forms are available at the central and regional offices of the PNP the Department of Interior and Local Government, Bureau of Fire Protection, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, National Youth Commission, Philippine Public Safety College and its recruitment units and regional training units, officers of city and municipal governments and chiefs of police, the PNPA alumni Association Inc. and selected national high schools, colleges and universities.

Qualified applicants will be examined and given/denied scholars enrolled on monthly training pay and allowances.

Graduates will be assured employment or promotion as we duce the police, fire or jail services of the DILG. More information may be obtained at www.pnpa.edu.ph or through e-mail pnpa@bellsouth.ph

The deadline for the submission of application is Aug. 31.

DILG to teach local execs how to be good managers

By Nelson P. Flores

ALL LOCAL officials elected last May 10 will undergo training in all aspects of local governance to make them effective managers.

In a statement, Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes said the Local Government Academy, the training arm of the Department of Interior and Local Government, has developed different training modules and courses on various aspects of local government administration, which the new local officials, and even those who had been reelected, could avail of.

He said the training modules include "Jump-starting Local Development Management Plan Steps," a course for newly elected officials, and "Leading Forward in Better Governance," a continuing competency-building course for reelected officials.

Reyes said the first course is designed to facilitate the orientation of new officials into their roles as managers of local governments under R.A.8553.

The course will have the following modules—Philippine Local Government and Development; Innovative Approaches in Managing Local Government and Local Agenda Setting.

On the other hand, Reyes said, "Leading Forward to Better Governance" is designed to be a continuing refresher program aimed at giving reelected officials a better understanding of current innovations, trends, challenges, technologies and issues in local governance.

It has four modules, namely, Philippine Local Governance and Development, Assessment of Current Situation of the LGU, Looking at New Ways of Doing Things and Matching with Local Requirements, and Assessment of LGU Plans and Agenda Setting.

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Guaso

US forces kill 90 Iraqi insurgents

Truce holds in holy city of Najaf

BAGHDAD—US forces killed around 90 insurgents in Iraq's worst month-and-a-half of Baghdad on Saturday, but a truce appeared to be holding in the holy city of Najaf despite a radical cleric's threat to fight to the death.

The fresh violence erupted on the eve of a national conference aimed at advancing Iraq's progress toward democracy. It nearly overshadowed Day 2 of 30-day Shiite Muslim uprising led by radical cleric Moqtada Sadr.

The US military said it had killed about 60 fighters near the northern town of Samarra, a mainly Sunni Muslim area where US troops have launched repeated raids to flush out guerrillas opposed to the presence of foreign troops in Iraq.

Fleeing also raped followers US troops and Sadr followers to the southern Shiite town of Hilla overnight. Forty fighters and three police were killed, Iraq television ministry said.

Hospitalization around the city of Najaf, where US fighters backed by tanks and warplanes launched an assault on Thursday aimed at crushing a rebellion by Sadr's fighters.

A truce seemed to be holding for a second day in Najaf on Saturday, allowing some residents to venture out and inspect the damage of more than a week of fighting.

Militiamen remained in some streets around the Imam Ali Mosque and a nearby area cemetery while US forces patrolled other parts of the city.

Separately, the US military said one soldier and one marine were killed on Friday in western Iraq.

The surge in fighting has posed the most serious challenge for interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi since his government assumed power from US occupiers on June 28, tasked with steering the country to elections in January 2005.

The national conference, due to open in Baghdad on Sunday, aims to pick a 100-member council to oversee the government.

Allawi said last week that the political process is open to all, but Sadr—buoyed by mass protests by his supporters on Friday—appeared in no mood to cut a deal as his aides said they were offered low-level posts.

Encircled by US troops in Najaf's sacred Imam Ali Mosque, Sadr pledged to stay in the city until victory or death, dampening hopes that Allawi's government would be able to negotiate a speedy end to the confrontation.

"I will not leave this holy city," he told his fighters, who chanted "No, no to ministry" in response. "We will remain here defending the holy shrines till victory or martyrdom."

Sadr appeared before his supporters wearing bandages but on Friday, apparently confirming reports by aides that he had been wounded in fighting earlier in the day. *Reuters*

A MUSLIM girl holds an AK-47 given to her by a Mahdi soldier, as supporters of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr set camp at the ancient Imam Ali mosque, a venerated Shiite holy site, after the US military suspended operations against Sadr's fighters in the southern Iraqi city of Najaf early Aug. 14.

Hurricane hits Florida west coast

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla.—Hurricane "Charley" leveled homes and snapped trees in half as it raged into the western Florida coast, leaving 1 million people without power and an expected billion-dollar price tag before moving into the Atlantic on Saturday.

A hurricane warning extended from Georgia to the South Carolina-Virginia state line as Charley churned through the ocean, the US National Hurricane Center said. It was expected to reach the South Carolina coast later in the day.

Packing winds of 225 kph, Charley was upgraded Category 4 storm when came ashore on Florida at Punta Gorda and Port Charlotte, sending many residents and prepared hurricane of opportunities the brunt of the hurricane would hit the coast south further north.

"I never seen anything like this before," said Victor Rivera as he stood on top of a pile of rubble that used to be his car parts shop where he worked in Port Charlotte.

The storm plowed across central Florida, weakening to a dumped heavy rains on Orlando, home to Disney World, and aimed for the Atlantic. Charley was expected to regain some strength over the warm waters before crossing back onto land in the Carolinas and proceeding through to the northeast as a tropical storm. *Reuters*

First India execution in decade

CALCUTTA—A man convicted of raping and killing a schoolgirl was hanged here today in India's first execution in nearly a decade, to the dismay of campaigners against the death penalty.

Superintendent Dhananjoy Chatterjee, 42, was executed at 4:30 a.m. in the eastern city of Calcutta, a jail official told reporters outside the prison.

Chatterjee had been convicted to death in 1991 for the rape and murder the previous year of a teenage schoolgirl who was a tenant in his building. Lawyers exhausted all appeals and President Abdul Kalam refused clemency.

Hundreds of people gathered outside the prison for an all-night vigil against the execution. About 200 policemen watched over the crowd.

Some of the protesters carried banners which read "Stop capital punishment" and "Abolish the death penalty."

"It is inhumane to hang anyone in a civilized society. The government has done an injustice to Dhananjoy by hanging him," said protester Sujata Bakshi, representative of the Asociation for Protection of Democratic Rights.

Human rights groups held candlelight processions in a number of other Indian cities.

India's Supreme Court rarely authorizes executions and they are regularly delayed indefinitely or commuted by the president. The government is guarded about disclosing its death penalty records. *AFP*

JULIA Child donning office recently remodeled kitchen in her Montecito, Calif., home on Feb. 15, 2001.

US cuisine queen Julia Child, 91

NEW YORK—Julia Child, the genial dame of US television cooking shows whose operatic tones and tyrannous attitude brought French haute cuisine to America's humble kitchens, died in her sleep at her California home on Friday at the age of 91.

"She died just a little before 2 a.m. this morning, very, very peacefully in her sleep," Child's nephew David McWilliams said. "It was the way she wanted to go. She didn't want to be in a hospital."

Child was with family friends and her cat Minou when she died of kidney failure at her Santa Barbara home, said her niece, Philadelphia Cousins. Child, who would have been 92 on Sunday, was suffering in the very end, pulling off her oxygen mask just hours before her death, she said.

Child has been synonymous with fine cooking in America since 1963, when her first TV show "The French Chef" became a public television hit and sold millions of books.

Friends said they were devastated, among them Bruce Lambert, owner of one of Child's favorite stores, Formaggio Kitchen in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

"She would stand by the counter, taste things, make remarks, tell customers what to buy, what's right, what's not," Lambert, who knew Child for more than 20 years, said.

"She didn't open her mouth. What came into her mind came right out. It was beautiful."

Asked by a radio interviewer once what her ultimate meal would be, Child said: "Red roast pork a la Chinese."

Longtime friend Jacques Pepin, who cooked for the late French President Charles de Gaulle and starred with Child in her final TV cooking show, said, "People have said she was more French than I was, and to a certain extent it was true. She was a true person. There are nothing like about her.

And people can see that through her cuisine."

President George W. Bush paid tribute, saying Child "introduced America with her optimism and enthusiasm for life... She taught millions to enjoy cooking," theatre

180 Congolese refugees massacred in UN camp

BUJUMBURA, Burundi—Dozens of unknown assailants attacked a UN refugee camp in western Burundi, shooting and hacking to death at least 160 Congolese refugees, witnesses and local officials said yesterday.

An additional 30 people died in the hospital following the late Friday attack on the refugee camp near the border with Congo, said Isabelle Abric, spokeswoman of the UN mission in Burundi.

"It is too early to identify the attackers," Abric said. "Some 150 people were killed on the spot and another 100 people were wounded and brought to hospital in (the Burundian capital city) Bujumbura, and we have learned that an additional 30 people died in hospital."

The assailants raided the camp late Friday, screaming war cries and torching a refugee camp in Gatumba, 20 km from the Congolese border town of Uvira, Louis Mignonsins, a local official, said.

The camp sheltered Congolese refugees, known as the Banyamulenge, who fled fighting in the country's troubled border province of South Kivu, Mignonsins said.

United Nations officials from Congo and Burundi are visiting the stricken camp to investigate the attack, said Elmira Nuhan, a spokeswoman of the UN mission to Congo.

"What we have seen so far are many, many many bodies of children, women and men," Nuhan said by telephone from Belukru, capital of South Kivu. "People were sleeping when the attack happened. People were killed as they tried to escape."

"The scene is absolutely horrific. There are many people burnt, families, children, women and men burnt," Nuhan said.

Dozens of wounded survivors raided the camp, Nuhan said.

"The attack was very well organized, the operation was planned well, they had a lot of weapons," Nuhan said.

A Burundian rebel group has issued a statement claiming responsibility for the attack, Nuhan said.

However, UN officials are analyzing whether the attack was carried out with the assistance of Congolese rebel fighters known as the Mai Mai or Rwandan rebels based in eastern Congo, Nuhan said.

The Rwandan insurgents include members of the former army and the extremists Interhamwe militia who fled to Congo after playing a key role in the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

More than 800,000 minority Tutsis and political moderates from the Hutu majority were killed in the 100-day slaughter organized by the extremist Hutu government then in power. AP

Lourdes braces for ailing Pope's visit

LOURDES, France—Some praying, some singing, 200,000 Roman Catholic pilgrims thronged the French Pyrenean town of Lourdes early Saturday to welcome Pope John Paul II on the 84th foreign visit of his pontificate.

The 84-year-old Pontiff, afflicted with Parkinson's disease, is making his second visit to Lourdes, whose shrine to the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus, has made it synonymous with pilgrimage and healing.

He was due to touch down at Tarbes airport near here shortly after 11 a.m., after taking off from Rome earlier at the start of two-day visit that will be a further cruel test of his health.

Many were already up on vantage points along the Pope's route through the morning town, which is bathed in bright sunshine and bedecked in the yellow and white colors of the Vatican, and the bunting of blue and white nationalist tricolours.

From first light, knots of rosary-clutching pilgrims began making their way slowly to the focal point of the Pope's visit, the Centre of Apparitions where Bernadette Soubirous, a 14-year-old peasant girl, reported visions of the Virgin Mary in 1858.

The Pope will address pilgrims here later Saturday and drink from the holy spring which, according to Catholic tradition, was uncovered by Bernadette on the Virgin's instructions.

Close to the Centre, a support for the infirm and the disabled for more than a century, a group of nuns from the Order of St. Josephine met Mass in France on an altar ground, softly singing hymns as they awaited for the Pope. AFP

Thai slays pinned on students' gambling

BANGKOK—Half a million Thai students are betting regularly on football matches with spiraling debts triggering murders, extortion rackets and prostitution, researchers said Sunday.

The researchers said a study had found that illegal gambling was rife throughout school and university life here with legitimate gambling on major European leagues such as Germany and Britain.

Students realise they're going up in debt and money from fellow students, Policy Research in Education director Amnuay Nakornthap said, adding the study had found cases of killings during disputes between gamblers and bookmakers.

He said the study of 12,000 students in 31 Thai provinces had found there were almost as many women as men gambling, foster young women were turning to prostitution to pay gambling debts, he said.

"I realise that it's hard to suppress gambling as it has existed for a long time in Thai society but I am worried about students aged 11 to 17 who are immature and naive because they have been overprotected by their parents," he said.

Amnuay was not able to say how much money the students spent on gambling. However, many easily ran up major debts because it was all on credit, he said.

Most forms of gambling are outlawed in Thailand but Thais still bet huge sums on underground lotteries, as outdoor across the border in Cambodia, on cockfighting, matches and football games. AFP

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OPINION

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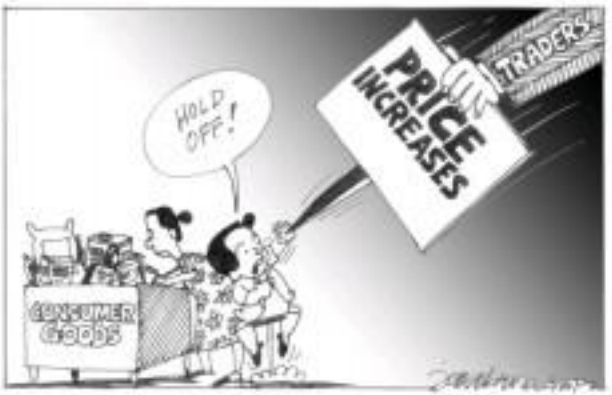

Will it work?

EDITORIALS

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's appointment of Vice President Noli de Castro as presidential adviser on overseas Filipino workers affairs may both be a boon and a bane to efficient government. It is a boon to the government's policy on overseas work since the appointment of a vice president—on less to coordinate that policy—provides a human face that millions of migrant workers abroad can relate to. It is a bane because it may confuse government as it creates another bureaucratic layer to overseas work regulation.

In looking for a role for her Vice President, President Arroyo appears to have taken a cue from her own experience as vice president to President Joseph Estrada. Back in 1998, she accepted the social welfare portfolio from Estrada, who belonged to another party and, as such, was not predisposed to giving his vice president a Cabinet position. But Ms. Arroyo accepted the position—the most menial and least attractive of Cabinet positions since the portfolio had the smallest budget among the line departments—and turned it into her stepping stone to the presidency. It was only natural for her to award the same position to De Castro, who was her running mate, but the appointment was greeted with public outcry since it meant displacing the current occupant, Dinky Soliman, who was perceived to be effective in the job.

Now, the President has given De Castro two positions—as chair of the National Poverty Commission and as presidential adviser on overseas Filipino workers affairs. The positions are superfluous. The President herself heads the commission and De Castro is her co-chair. And as presidential adviser on OFW affairs, the Vice President has no portfolio. Perhaps to make his appointment more substantial, the President has appointed him as chair of the boards of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, thus displacing Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas. In effect, Sto. Tomas' position has been weakened, even as the bureaucracy is expanded and becomes more regimented.

There is no denying that OFWs are so important a priority in the government agenda. The Vice President, who has popular appeal to the masses, provides the human dimension to that priority. And even without a portfolio or a line department, the Vice President can make of the largely ceremonial position a political platform with which to make his claim on the presidency six years from now. In fact, the President herself has long courted the OFW constituency, as shown by her aborted appointment of her husband, First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, as ambassador for overseas workers issues last year.

But all of these reasons that support her appointment of the Vice President are political. They hardly make the case for an efficient management of the OFW agenda. It is just clear, for example, how the Vice President would work with the line agencies on the matter. And Sto. Tomas may be swamped and crippled in her handling of labor affairs because she does not have access to the policy boards of overseas manpower agencies.

It could be argued, of course, that Sto. Tomas and the overseas labor agenda are reinforced because of the appointment of the Vice President as the "overseas labor czar," whatever that means. But this is at best wishful thinking. At the least, it goes against the President's policy of streamlining the bureaucracy. Two heads may be better than one—but they may also result in head-banging and confusion. Too many cooks may spoil the overseas labor broth.

Rest, please

PERHAPS the President should take the advice of Sen. Joker Arroyo to take a rest and stop fighting the bureaucratic and policy wars that should be the business of her Cabinet members, not hers. The rest will afford her some pause from agonizing over what rule to give her Vice President. It will also allow her to rationalize her time and effort.

Senator Arroyo's advice was his reaction to the President's all too-eager attempt to defend her tax priorities. Although her heady reply showed her spunkiness to engage in a public debate to finish out the issues, it also showed she had been doing too much of the work, shielding her Finance managers from attacks and abetting their laziness and incapacity to articulate her programs.

The President is known for her incredible work ethic. But she should not overstretch herself. She should not test herself defending her turf.

The crushed bud

SEPARATE OPINION

ISAGANI A. CRUZ

STILL on sight downtime I winter while still on the Supreme Court, let me turn on a few more cases that deserve special interest.

Provinces among these were the anonymous cases that demonstrated the moral wickedness of the offender over his own kin, usually a young and defenseless daughter. In one complaint, not one but two daughters were assaulted by the father, with both becoming pregnant by him. The two deliverers, aged 15 and 14, were both mentally retarded, their mother, to whom they explained their condition, was also abnormal. She merely said when she learned of her husband's monstrosity that "he did not have any manners."

In convicting the accused in People v. Ramos, 345 SCRA 400, the Court said:

"Rape is a harrowing crime that deserves the condemnation of all decent persons who recognize that a woman's cherished chastity is born alone to surrender of her own free will. Whoever violates that will descends to the level of the animal beast. The act becomes doubly repulsive when the outrage is perpetrated on one's own flesh and blood for the culprit is reduced to lower than the lowly beast.

"The rapist yields only to biological impulses and is unbowed by social inhibitions when it comes with its victim. But the rape who rapes his own daughter violates not only her purity and her trust but also the mores of his society which he has sworn duly to defend.

"In inflicting his animal greed on her in a disgusting perversion of instincts late, he betrays all respect as a human being and is justly spurned by all, not least of all by the fruit of his own loins whose progeny he has forever stained with his shameful and shameless lechery."

In People v. Dungo, 144 SCRA 454, the victim was only eight years old when she was ravished and raised child, she spurned tolerance forever hammered. Her emerging into womanhood can never be for her a sealed and cherished memory of fulfillment and discovery, as it has been and it will be for others. Neither a mother threshed her. It is most pleasurable sustenance. Her own sordid initiation is an experience she is doomed to recall with dismay, recalling at every remembered detail of how her chastity was exposed and her home defiled."

So may be expected, though, not all sentences for rape have been affirmed by the Supreme Court. There has been a considerable number of cases where the accused was properly acquitted for lack of the needed evidence to establish his guilt beyond the subspace of a doubt.

Thus, where the trial court convicted a 58-year-old man of raping a 13-year-old girl, on the decision in People v. Fulinara, 305 SCRA 640, began: "The prosecution will have to contend no easy with the presumption of innocence for sins of impotency."

Also carefully considering the facts of the case, the Court declared:

"What we see here is not raging catharsis fearing his lust [animal] and a young girl with a subject moral center and a ripe body offering him effective resistance to his needs. We do not want to summarize a man on old adult. It is wrong and it are here exposed, made light of or dismissed. It is dismissed for what it is—an eminently unfortunate adverse it is not clear who the rapists and the rapees are although neither was really done to be blamed on. But, in our view, it is definitely not rape."

So much then for the erotic subject of rape. Now what we'll talk of something more exciting, like politics or graft and corruption or abuse but, okay?

Give in!

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

SOMEONE asks me this true dialogue: "I don't like when given in when he is wrong is an honest man, is man who gives in when he is not sure is a wise man, a man who gives in even when he is right is...a martyr material?"

* * *

If we look at the life of Mary here was a constant giving in to the will of the Father, and because of this, she became the most blessed of all women. Because of her humility and obedience, she was exalted by the most high. Realizing this, she was filled with awe and was prompted to sing from her heart the Magnificat (Lk. 1, 39-56), praising the faithfulness and greatness of God. If we look back at our lives, I am very sure that there is a reason to sing our own Magnificat, a song of praise and gratitude to God. As you go through life, what song are you singing? A grateful song, or a regretful song?

* * *

Mary believed that the Lord's word would come true. She must have had her doubts, but she chose to believe. There were many discouraging and disheartening moments in her life, but she kept her focus. Through it all, she did not lose sight of God. When we lose sight of God, we lose hope, we lose meaning, we lose perspective, and we lose even our mission and compassion. You and I are never out of God's sight, but is He visible to us?

* * *

It usually happens that those who have nothing become more trusting. There are times when God helps us in the things—even of the people—we have to see, so that we learn to trust Him. Whenever we come to see in Him the goodness and compassion of God, we will learn to trust Him more and more. God is reaching us to let go of our securities and anxieties. There are many signs of God's presence and love, a God who wants to set us free from the false and freeing securities that imprison and trap us. Like Mary, may we learn to see every trial as God's way of saving us free. When we are afflicted with all sorts of afflictions and temptations, let us not lose sight of Mary's unwavering trust in heaven, her free, free worldly burdens and concerns, we too, like Mary, will be victorious, someday. In the meantime, we must be open to purification, do our mission, and not lose sight of our vision.

* * *

Thank God for enjoyed imagine denying through the rain without wipers, especially on a thick night. Thank are like wipers that help us see better. There too many to see better. What was the last time you cried? When was the last time you cried with your God?

* * *

According to a story I heard, a child once asked what is the difference between dinner and supper. The father answered: "When we go out for a meal, that's dinner, when we only home and our what you mom prepared, that's supper." I don't know what you make out of this anecdote, but one things come to my mind: First, our way of looking at things can make or break us, and second, the power of humor in life is so big. It is enough 40's, for us consciously be on the "metaphysical" mode, ever helpful, ever joyful, ever ready to see above the problems and difficulties that confront us.

* * *

We need a lot of faith to survive, and to live meaningful lives. Someone once described faith as that which lifts you up when you are down, that which supports you when you are laden and heavy, that which assures you that, through it all, there's a reason, there's a plan, there's a purpose, there's a meaning to it all. Faith is that which helps us to see beyond the present moment, beyond the present circumstances, beyond the present pain, beyond the present problem, beyond the present situation. Faith is that which helps us to see beyond the present moment, beyond the present circumstances, beyond the present pain, beyond the present problem, beyond the present situation. Faith is that which helps us to see beyond the present moment, beyond the present circumstances, beyond the present pain, beyond the present problem, beyond the present situation.

* * *

Think about it: "Don't life than neighbor on down. If it the way we carry it. It doesn't take a lot of strength to hang on. It takes a lot more to let go."

* * *

Inviting your to join a pilgrimage to Sajo, Ilocos from Oct. 4-6, 2004 and encounter thy redeemer, Little Him. For more details, please call 913.43.88, 721.71.47 or 0921.2866818.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, like Mary, made me so give in to your divine will. Amen.

Flogging a dead horse

REVELLE

Raimundo L. Farolan

ONE of the most biting commentaries regarding the perfect blame of non-performance of our Department of Foreign Affairs was the recent privilege speech delivered by Sen. Juan P. Enrile on Australian Philippine relations. Recalling that it took the DFA seven years to present the instrument of ratification of the agreement for the Treaty of the Philippine continuous from Hong Kong to Australia, Enrile reacted immediately to similar remarks. Always civilized, Australia for its use of undiplomatic language and outrageous foreign affairs—oh, a far better word than "rude"—that does not even have basics or relevance or appreciation of collusion between the Abu Sayyaf and military elements during the recent operations for the Ora Peninsa hostages in June 2001.

Never

TALK *of the* TOWN

Please send feedback to: [redacted]@inquirer.com.ph

Edito Jaime V. Ongpin Jr.

Is the Vatican against feminism?

TO BE AN IMPETUS for "dialogue with all men and women of good will" is one of the aims of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith when it issued the "Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Collaboration of Men and Women in the Church and in the World."

The other is to serve as "a starting point for further examination in the Church."

Instead of dialogue, the letter, released by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, has stirred denunciations in the streets and in Congress from militant women in the country. Ratzinger is the head of the Congregation, the Vatican department in charge of safeguarding and interpreting doctrine.

The letter said many women felt that they had to be adversaries of men in order to be themselves. "Faced with the abuse of power, the answer for women is to seek power. This process leads to opposition between men and women ... which has its most immediate and lethal effects on the structure of the family."

It also criticized the attempt of feminists to erase gender differences. "The obscuring of the difference ... inspired ideologies, which for example, call into question the family. In its natural two-parent structure of mother and father, are made homosexuality and homosexuality rival equivalent, in a new model of polymorphous sexuality."

With broadsides from feminists, Archbishop Oscar V. Cruz suggested that the letter be read in its entirety to avoid misconceptions, to which women's groups retorted that they had read the document thoroughly.

The bishops and women's groups may well try holding a dialogue to discuss the letter and to clear any misconceptions.

The Church reinforces women's subordination

By Amorjelly T. Torres

THE Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Collaboration of Men and Women in the Church and in the World presents the views of Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger and Angelo Amato, Titular Bishop of Sila, on "the basic elements of thought which are of use or necessary with the authentic advancement of women."

The first part, "The Question," interprets true "emancipation" that aims to address "women's issues," and criticizes global efforts to address women's concerns — the imposition of "feminist ideology" on the gender equality (the second standard).

The second part speaks of "the so-called truth concerning the human person" — interpreted from Genesis, Chapters 1 to 3. The third part includes the conclusion on "the importance of feminine values" in the life of the modern part of the Church, respectively.

The sections produce the issues with an introduction or short reflection on existing points for "further examination in the Church, as well as an impetus for the dialogue" in order to arrive at a "common commitment to the development of even more authentic relationships."

The article is aimed to contribute to this dialogue.

Begging the question

In the view of Cardinal Ratzinger and Bishop Amato, this "true tendency" in the various forms is based on the assumption of "hateful confusion regarding the human person" and has "materialistic and individualistic connotations of the family." Why is this so?

God originally created male and female as persons, "since both were made in the image and likeness of the person of God." Genesis (2:4b-25) tells us that "The Lord God formed from the ground every wild animal and every bird in the sky and brought them to the man, to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man named all the cattle, all the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for the man no helper was found who was suitable to be with him. So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was asleep he took one of the man's ribs and closed the flesh over the place. Then the Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. The man said: 'This one at last is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh; she shall be called woman because she was taken from man.' That is why a man leaves father and mother and becomes attached to his wife, and they become one flesh. Both of them were naked, the man and his wife, but neither felt any shame before the other."

Genesis (2:18-23) is also interpreted as implying that "in the unity of the two," man and woman are called to create side by side, "one for the other." Thus, heterosexual marriage is destined to be the "fundamental dimension of this call." However, original sin is interpreted to have changed the nature of the relationship between humanity and the Creator, and between man and woman, so that God declared to the woman upon being banished from Eden: "your urge shall be for your husband, and he shall be your master" (Genesis 3:16).

These "fundamental texts" supposedly upheld the equality of men and women, and their equal dignity is confirmed as physical, psychological and ontological complementarity. We are admonished that "problems related to sexual differences, whether on the public or private level, should be addressed by a reciprocity which is primarily and not by competition or confusion."

Struggle vs evolution-equality

The Global Movement for the Advancement of Women can be seen as a struggle to establish the rights of women to enjoy equal access with men. This is the principle that threads across the many victories of feminists, that women have been oppressed and unfairly treated by a tradition exclusively and not by competition or confusion."

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Catholicism itself, along with other religions that developed in patriarchal (or male-dominated) societies, has propagated beliefs on the subordination of women. In 2001, while Cuba's women activists

> In our ecumenical consultation in Manila, declared: "As Church people, we have come to realize that the hegemony patriarchal clericalism has [on] the subjugation and marginalization of women ... left unexamined theological premises, traditions and beliefs that have prevented us from becoming fully human and have blurred the image of God that we are." Feminists include women and men (including those from religious congregations) who wish to take action to do so to end discrimination.

Gender, class and ethnicity

In the Philippines, women's subordination is manifested to other places in three spheres of human relationships: gender, class, and ethnicity (or race).

The second subsidiary mentioned by Ratzinger and Amato, "Gender Equality" theory and practice, undercuts claims to equality between women and men in three different realms of relationships. Since Catholicism and other cultural values have given men the dominant voice in our society, it is important to empower women first to take action for their rights, to be heard and to participate in their traditional positions. Only then can they hope to change the unequal nature of gender, class and other relationships.

Ideology to (not) develop

While Sociology and Anthropology do not judge the equality before God of man and woman, they recognize the Bible to uphold the "difference or duality of the sexes" beyond the physical and physiological dimensions. Their theories struggle to the concept of human as character and personality to understand a "key element of women's identity." They stress as true, plausible women's caring role in all aspects of human relationships.

Thus, while the Letter acknowledges that women should "be present in the world of work and in the organizations of society," it speaks of the harmful "feminist error" the role of women in public life with the detriment of the family. This materialistic view of women is precisely the origin of much of her oppression and many women are being taken advantage this exploitation and experience.

Feminists argue that child-rearing and other domestic responsibilities are activities that can be equally shared between and women, and that there is nothing inherent in being a woman that makes it her sole responsibility, or in man's sexual make up that prevents him from taking up these roles.

Much is made of the importance of feminine values in the current, but almost nothing is said about the key aspects of masculine values that affect society and the Church. The current "dominance" of that has relegated women to second-class positions in many societies. It has silenced her and made her immobile. It has been used to justify claim for

ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERT MANUEL
FROM A BOOK BY [illegible]

Gender inequality in RP

By the Center for Women's Resources

■ Over the past two years, 05 to 11 percent of Filipinos making the country are women. For every 100 women making for the abroad, 36 are hired by or employers (singers or dancers) and 34 as domestic helpers. These low-paid jobs expose women to violence.

■ Many women are recruited to the skies force. As of April 2003, only 4 out of every 10 pilots in the country were women.

■ Most employed women are found to work that are extensions of their work at home. These are wholesale and retail trade (30 percent), and community, social and personal services (15 percent). In fact, the highest number of employed women (3.4 million) are private households. They receive women an income from.

■ Generally, women are found to jobs in which pay is irregular under low. Majority of women employed in April 2003 were either own-account workers (3 million) of unpaid family workers (2 million). Most of such workers are found in agriculture and fishing (13.8 percent) or wage and salary household workers (9 percent). Of the 5.6 million wage and salaried workers, 33 percent work in private establishments.

■ Women are discriminated against in the workplace. In hiring, young and single women are preferred more than older and married counterparts because companies would rather not pay additional benefits like maternity leaves.

Managers say married women are more prone to absences because they are expected to take care of their children or even husbands. Managers likewise expect married women to take their jobs anytime if demands of housework and children become great.

■ Although 76 percent of teachers are women, only a small percentage get to become supervisors. Moreover, the education secretary is usually male.

■ Women are expected to subordinate themselves to their husbands, a strong salient in marriage rituals. Thus, many wives get away with wife or partner battering. In 2002, a woman was battered every nine hour and 24 minutes. This figure is underestimated because many acts of battering are unreported.

Barangay and police officials would always advise the aggrieved women to go back home and ask the problem over with their husbands before filing a case. Church people would always ask women to pray and be more discreet, sometimes says, "what God has joined together, no man can put asunder."

■ Women are subjected to sexual harassment despite laws against such acts. In 2002, a woman a child was raped every 100 minutes. A woman or child fell victim to acts of violence once every four hours.

■ There is a need to launch sound education in [illegible] for grassroots women.

Any relationship outside the divine plan is an aberration

By Jo N. Imbong

WHAT MORE FUNDAMENTAL issue could men and women and their relationship to each other outside the divine design, but contradictorily outside of that will be an aberration, a departure from the original plan.

That is the gist of the divine plan for the human race that there be a fundamental complementarity of what is masculine and what is feminine. "Man and woman, he created them," the scriptures say. By this means is called into existence the analogous nature of a being to other determinations in existence, which in turn determines its means of perfection.

Woman's physiological and psychological make-up underscores her complementarity. Herself being created out of love, she becomes a giver of love. Thus, woman's dignity is closely connected with the love which she receives by the very reason of her being created by God.

Genesis (2:18-23) is also interpreted as implying that "in the unity of the two," man and woman are called to create side by side, "one for the other." Thus, heterosexual marriage is destined to be the "fundamental dimension of this call." However, original sin is interpreted to have changed the nature of the relationship between humanity and the Creator, and between man and woman, so that God declared to the woman upon being banished from Eden: "your urge shall be for your husband, and he shall be your master" (Genesis 3:16).

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(Dr. Jovan Torres is Professor of Community Development at the University of Mindanao. He has various books and articles on women and gender issues.)

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Love'eMall!

6 RP chessers share 3rd in Italy

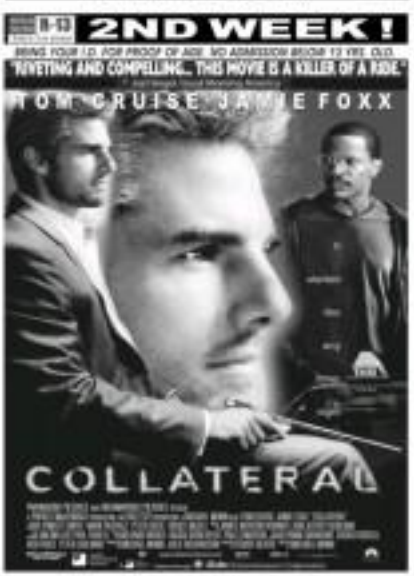
IM Filipinos, led by International Masters Mark Paragua and Ronald Bancod, shared third place after the fifth round of the 6th Geneva Individual International Open Chess Championships yesterday in Sestrire, Italy.

Paragua drew with GM Mihail Marin of Yugoslavia while Bancod also halved the point with IM Nelson Mazo of Dominican Republic to share fourth to 6-8 points. The more super pared by competitor IM Pete Rabida, IM Joseph Sambas, MM Rolando Maligaya and WIM Catherine Suland-Sadorahan.

Lutic, Mazo, GM Stelan Djuric of Yugoslavia, IM Mario Lanzani, IM Daniele Barlozzini, IM Plastic Guido of Italy also have the same.

Rabida defeated IM Christopher Kondorandis Cu-many torches boosted his share of Germany. Mohr advanced Schoenfeld to Grillo of Italy and Sabatier upset IM Christopher Reinmuth of Germany.

Another Filipino, MM Rolly Martinez, learned to IM Daniele Gerocchio of Italy and was stuck at 5.5 points. MM Hamlet Bernardino



Fights on TV

"GMA PACIFICA Presents" today features two exciting bouts in the minimum-weight and light flyweight divisions.

Pedro Delos Santos Arabot Melgar in four rounds at 106 lbs. and Rey Jimar Jr. faces Ryan Rhining in six rounds at 108 lbs. The fights were held recently at the Jose Gonzales boxing arena in Bagumbayan, Taguig, Metro Manila.

The show is aired weekly in the United States, Europe, Australia, Japan, the Middle East and other parts of the world through ABS-CBN's Pinoyvision TV.

Saturday's Fights, aired at 2 p.m. Sundays on IBC-13, is supported by Samsung Electronics Philippines Corp., PCSO, Hapee toothpaste and Tanduay Rhum.

Derby at LPC

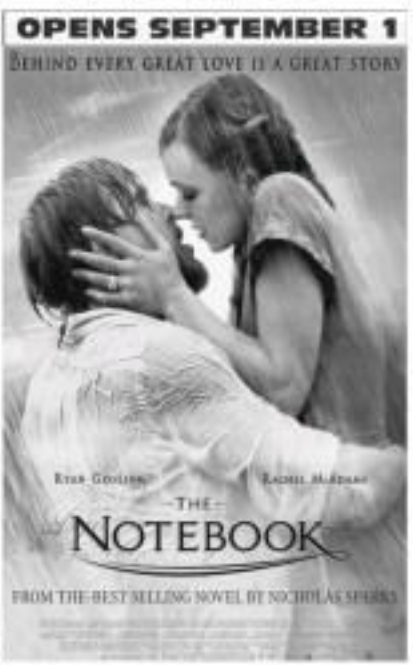
Kids must complete a riding session starter at the air-conditioned Las Palmas Coliseum via the annual "LPC 6-Hrng. Derby" on Aug. 24 and 26, with Sagrapuan Complex or 3000 and Hapee Center Filipino as sponsors.

A whopping total prize of P75 million and two brand new motorcycles are up for grabs in this fund raiser to be hosted by Mayor Nino Aquilo. Entry fee is P15,000.

Part of daily proceeds will be donated to various projects in Las Palmas like Clinic and Grow program.

For details, call 851-3940 and 0919-2910.

The elimination round is set on Aug. 24.



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NBI urged to probe newsmen's slayings

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Journalists here have asked the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) to take the lead in establishing the real motive behind the murder of radio reporter Jonathan Abayon.

On Aug. 14, the Task Force Abayon, a body created by the local government to monitor the progress of the dismissive murder case after the police director Supt. Willie Bongcawel promised to cleared former Mimaropa Inspector of any liability.

"This development has created more questions in the minds of our colleagues and that of the family of late Abayon," the letter further said.

On Friday, Barquias called for a press conference to air his side.

Plea

During the said press conference, Dangoy even pleaded to the media to spare the latter from the issue because he brings honor and pride to the city.

The media group also noted several inconsistencies in the pronouncements of Inspector Dangoy about Abayon's death.

In an interview with the local station of a giant television network here, Barquias denied knowing William Bael.

Bael was consistently tagged in reports, including by the police, as a bodyguard of the gunfire.

In a separate interview with the Inquirer, Barquias said that on the night of the killing, he just wanted to find bodies going to bed.

He said Bael's mother had just died and his wife was confined at a hospital in Davao City.

"We are not saying that the boxing councilors has a hand in the killing of Mr. Abayon, all we are after in The Truth to come out. Many residents, newsmen and the family of the late Mr. Abayon are now asking why there is a hasty move to include Mr. Barquias from the incidents." the media group said.

Groups of journalists, including those from other countries, have expressed concern over the police's failure to solve the killings of journalists in the country. Agustin Ennis, PDI Mindanao Bureau

MARKET DAY
Vendors get ready for another market day at the Bonifacio Public Market in Kapangan, Davao del Sur, choosing carrots before these are sold to buyers.
RIO LUCIANO/INQUIRER MINDANAO

Role of 'jueteng' men in quarry taxes seen in Pampanga

By Tonnie Dreyo
PhilStar/Inquirer Bulletin

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Who's overseeing now the collection of taxes in the quarry industry touted to be the biggest potential source of public funds of the Pampanga provincial government?

Two INQUIRER sources said it is not Provincial Treasurer Abigail Salvat or her predecessor who actually collect the taxes.

Since July, it has been suspected Jueteng lord Emilio "Bong" Pineda who has assumed the control of this public task, the sources reported on Monday.

Pineda, who reportedly bankrolled the campaign of Gov. Mark Lapid, is currently supervising the industry through his son, Lalaine Allyce Cerna Pineda.

The governor and the mayor settled long since friends.

Lapid's supposed man, who keeps an eye on the new set-up, is Provincial Administrator Fidel Antonio, an appointee of the governor.

Mayor Pineda, reached by phone on Monday, denied that he and his father have controlled the industry that thrives on the sand from Mt. Pinatubo (proved rich fading in 1991) eruption.

"Some people may have misinterpreted my helping some mayors who have asked Governor Lapid to review their shares of the revenues," the mayor said.

Just helping

He said he was helping in his capacity as president of the Pampanga Mayors League.

According to the sources, the Pineda stepped in after they succeeded in "ironing out" issues involving Administrator Benedicto Galang.

Galang, in behalf of the provincial quarry task force, is reported chief of staff of Gov. Edmund "Edu" Lapid, the governor's father.

Under various officials and even under Galang, the task force had been hounded by allegations of irregularities in collections. There resulted to graft charges against the former governor. The handpicked provincial fiscal Lutz Zeb of after the charges were filed.

Despite this, found to Lapid continued to be hounded over by questions on his alleged illegal practice amidst.

A source in the provincial capitol said it is still Galang who sets the receipts through which the provincial government collects Php P200 tax for every truckload of sand hauled out of Pampanga.

Reports said the receipts tax fees and the proceeds were recorded.

Galang, reached also by phone from the house, denied both claims. Talked was in a meeting and could not be reached for comments.

P5 million in collection

Salvat earlier reported that about 99 million in quarry taxes had been collected from January to October last year.

But the Inquirer sources said this amount was low enough compared to the P139 million that the state-owned Bureau of Research Development Corp. collected in 1999 when it took over the collections of taxes.

Salvat had not released the latest figures on the collections despite an Inquirer request.

Governor Lapid said it was necessary to review detail of the task force, who was overseeing the industry.

"The task of quarry collections cannot be done by private persons because the task is a public natural resource. Why would the Pinedas dig their hands in the quarry business? It's running that Mr. Pineda is suspected of," the governor said.

Three quarry industry sources said the governor has chosen a certain "Tagung" from Mandaluyong in Pasig, the hometown of the Lapids, to handle the collections.

ROUNDUP

Vessel runs aground

CEBU CITY—A passenger vessel ran aground a few minutes after it departed from the Port Pier on Cassidra Island, Cebu on Tuesday. The 29 crewmen and 65 passengers of MV Ildefonso Ten disembarked from the vessel at around 10:45 a.m. that day after the vessel was stuck on the shallow part of the area before the water rose shallow. Chief Petty Officer Leonel Maala, Cebu Coast Guard deputy commander, said the vessel left the Port Pier past 11 a.m. and was supposed to arrive in Port 1 in Cebu City at about 3 p.m. But the strong waves and winds caused the vessel to run aground. No one was injured. The 500 meters from the port, causing the vessel ground. Maala said Coast Guard investigator will be conducted to be likely dispose their statement. Mimaropa Team, owned by the Ildefonso Shipping.

Jhannie Kapadiman, PDI Visayas Bureau

Father, son nabbed

ORMOC CITY, Leyte (2nd)—Two armed robbery suspects in Binongoan, Naujanan arrested by policemen Dec. Alloy Tuesday. Alloy police director Rodel Supt. Jefferson Pagara identified the arrested persons as Rogelio Aguilar Jr., and son Rogelio Aguilar Jr. who have been allegedly the owner of hardware stolen in Binongoan, Real. The father and son have been held bail of P200,000 each. The Aguilars were captured by an Tuesday in Barangay Salgan by policemen headed by Chief Insp. Ferdinand Alamos. Victims are now detained at the Iloilo police detention cell. Recovered from Pagara and they re-issued the young Aguilar turned over a Binongoan Municipal Trial Court order to be held in detention.

Jhannie Lingat, PDI Northern Leyte Bureau

Health practices award

LEGAZPI CITY—The successful health programs of the city of Legazpi dubbed "Mkasang sa Dalan" (Progressive City of Health Services) has gained the only "Big Boss" nationwide awards. "World-wide has no quantitative" and "Manageable to Serve (Don't consume, counsel)" hanged on world first awards. Supt. Rod Mallari, city police chief, said the awards were also used about in the city and similar logo were found on their bodies. The awards will be received on Monday at Manila Peninsula, 21, and Jan with postings 20, both from Bicolano Samuel. Albuquerque Dang de los Reyes and Ramil Aglaoyan. Tubbs said Secretary with Leadership Center in the police force of implementation and Mallari's Legazpi City Police Station 1 (Lead) Police Station 2 (Pacific) and Legazpi Police Station in Pangpangan.

Patricio Gubat-Nuelas, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Girl killed in mishap

CITY, MANILA—Police are investigated a motorcycle accident that killed a 16-year-old girl and injuring three others on Wednesday in the major Quezon Metro. Police said Jessica Bata, 16, died instantly due to head injuries. Bata and her classmates were going home on their motorcycle when an Isuzu Elf driven by unidentified driver collided with them. The driver was charged with homicide and physical injuries through reckless imprudence. He is now detained at the municipal jail here.

Germain Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Bureau

PANA Foundation

From Truth in Political Advertising Forum 1

"The political ads shown in the previous election basically reflects the culture of the Filipino society. The "garbage" and lack of substance shown in the political ads, that's what the Filipino voters want."
Jun Nicolas, KBP

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Jun Perez, GMA7

"The political candidates distort and suppress the truth, so rather than bringing people together, they are the instrument for driving them apart... creating mistrust, conflict and factions in people."
Atty. Jo Imbong, CBCP

"The result of the previous elections proved that political advertising instead of leveling-off the playing field, gives edge to the political candidates with money. Those who can afford to air many political ads are the politicians who win"
Nina David, Philippine Daily Inquirer

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INQUIRER Mindanao

Restoring Tangub's damaged forests

By Ryan D. Rosauro
Bright City, Misamis Occidental

RAINS bring mixed feelings for retired public school teacher Narciso Narvin. She is anxious of soil eroding and draining into the rivers, as she sees the bald hinterlands of this city of Misamis Occidental.

Narvin remembers witnessing this scene on Sept. 11 last year, when a heavy downpour turned the dirt roads into a "brown river."

But Narvin also relishes the coming of rains as it means that a new season of tree reforestation projects for the city's 900 hectares open-denuded zone will resume.

City administrator Tonio Lumbab said tree-planting activities are scheduled to start on the first week of September. Lumbab was reported as being more coma.

Alarmed over the denuded watersheds and dry riverbeds, the local government thought of reviving the reforestation through the program called Bantang sa Reforestation Effort for Ecological Sustainability (Tree) to restore the damaged ecology.

Lumbab said he knows that the tragedy that had befallen to areas is caused by the much larger destruction wrought on the Mindanog Mountain Range, the local government chose to start in its reforestation with the denuded areas.

The rivers of Kapatagan, Bonifacio, Malabog and Baganihang provide irrigation water for the city's farms.

However, during the last rainy months, the river runoff briefly flows through the lowlands, which has hindered the transaction of farmlands, said city agriculture officer Imogen Rendo.

Heart of the matter

Rendo believed that with determinable irrigation, farmers be persuaded to become threshold the city's mostly enriched croplands from the present 300 hectares to at least 6 thousand hectares.

Watershed reforestation is also cited for minimizing the supply of potable water, said Filomena Bernardez, general manager of Tangub City Water Service (TOWS).

Presently, TOWS's water production at Inomoron, Kim-Ki's subterranean reserve mostly is sourced mostly from underground water with some priority flow from a mountain watershed.

Due to high pumping costs, Bernardez said that in the months ahead, the city's water supply will be reduced.

The city's 40 barangays, Bonifacio, Malabog and Baganihang have been identified as the city's heavy.

Narvin, who is a member of the Tangub City Environment and Natural Resources Office (TENRO), said the city's forest cover has been reduced to 10 percent of its total land area.

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Heart of the matter

DAVAO BEAUTY
A woman visits the agrotourism trade fair in Davao City getting attracted to an orchid on display at the fair held in commemoration of the annual Kadayawan sa Dabaw fiest.

Cement, steel prices up as result of hike in prices of gasoline

CEBU CITY—Due to the increases in fuel prices, the cost of construction materials, including cement and steel bars, has also gone up.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) said the prices of cement went up by 5.56 percent due to adjustments in oil prices.

Units of steel bars have also gone up by 13 percent because of two reasons—strong demand in China and because of the fuel price increases, said Arsenio Calderia, DTI director for Central Visayas.

Calderia said that based on Dti's monitoring, the price of cement went up from P142 per bag in May to P150 last week, or an increase of P8 per bag.

Cement is more expensive in Bohol where the increase went up to P160 per bag, or an increase of 7 percent, due to adjustments in transportation, the official said.

Calderia said increases in fuel products affected the prices of cement because the fuel component in cement production was about 30 percent.

When asked if high demand was a factor for the increase, she replied: "Remember, it's rainy season now, there is not too number of construction work so therefore the demand is not high," Calderia said.

The prices of steel bars also went up. The cost of a 20-milliliter steel bar now costs P97.00 when it used to be only P80 in May. The 12-milliliter steel bar is priced at P140 from P127.

Calderia said the prices of steel bars were affected by the increasing demand in China. The high cost of imported raw materials and the fuel price adjustment also triggered the increase in the cost of steel bars.

But Calderia said her office has yet to monitor any increase in the prices of basic commodities like canned goods, milk, laundry soap and others.

The effects of the recent increases in oil prices, power rates, fare and minimum wage on the prices of basic commodities could only be determined after three months. —Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau

Albay town anti-rabies tactic draws criticism

LEGAZPI, DOMINGO, Albay—Threatening it as an unfriendly act against man's best friend, organizations from Canada and United Kingdom and other animal welfare advocates announced the move of this town's mayor to eliminate stray dogs through poisoning to stop the spread of rabies.

In a letter addressed to Mayor Fidel Surtida, Philippine Veterinary Medical Association of Canada, a charitable organization for the protection of animals and the environment, said their poisoning dogs is not a humane option.

"After reporting the poison bait, it can take hours or even days for the poisoned to kill the animal. If the poison bait is laid unguarded and in an enclosed environment, it can increase the chances of accidental poisoning of non-target animals, including pets and humans, most especially small children," Sullivan said in the letter.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Animal Welfare Society, Inc. likewise expressed opposition to poisoning of dogs.

Dita Hendrawati Lichauco, president of Paws, said in her letter to Surtida that the "humane" way would not a means of animal control or a unacceptable for any reason whatsoever in the civilized world."

Paws, according to Lichauco, is willing to offer help to the municipality in instituting humane measures for animal control.

Mayor Agnes said the move is the last recourse that they have to take to prevent rabies from spreading.

"It's a matter of life and death. We never can between the lives of our people and that of the stray dogs and of course I'd rather choose to save my people's lives," he said.

"Considering our municipality is big with close one, we can hardly afford to provide and reach localities that's why we just implemented this one, through a mass vaccination," he added.

Joyce Ilisa Bunoc, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Cop faces rap for killing of German

By Chito A. Chavez
PDI Visayas Bureau

MORLARAN CITY—A police man is facing criminal charges for allegedly killing a German and wounding the foreigner's live-in partner near their house in Barangay Bowbot last Aug. 7.

SPO1 Joel Salang of the Lapaz town police station has been detained at Camp Dagohoy headquarters of the Bohol Provincial Police Office, after charges of murder and frustrated murder were filed against him at the Tag-bilaran City Prosecutor's Office on Wednesday.

Salang, 36, did not seem to need rehearsal when questioned by Insp. Tarcisio Jumawan, Lapaz police chief, last Aug. 9.

Salang said another unidentified person was accused of killing Peter Lee Oskar Bastian, 65, a German who was a long time Tagbilaran resident.

They allegedly shot Bastian's live-in partner, Rosanna Sanico, 36, who was left in the lurch.

Bacus, in her affidavit, identified Salang as the passenger of the motorcycle that was used by the suspect who ambushed them on Aug. 7.

Corroborated by affidavits of two of her employees, Bacus said a man identified as Salang went in front their residence in July suppose to buy a pair of shoes.

Without any reason, Salang suddenly asked them if the merchandise at our store is for sale.

Last Aug. 7, Bacus said she was driving the couple's Honda CRV car at about 7 p.m. on Graham where she noticed a JET 125 motorcycle overtaking to overtake on the right side.

Bacus and Sanico, who was sitting in the passenger seat, were not very keen from their encounter with the German's live-in partner.

Bacus said that because she got irritated, she looked at the two men riding the motorcycle when they got close and got a good look of their faces since they looked back.

The motorcycle was able to overtake them, and disappeared but Bacus saw it again in a nearby house, more than 100 meters from their house.

Bacus said she noticed that the passenger already wore a helmet. She started to get scared when she noticed what she thought was a gun protruding from his waist.

When she told Sanico about it, Bacus said the German told her to drive faster.

But the motorcycle overtook, their vehicle when they got closer to their house. Then Bacus heard gunshots and saw that Sanico was hit in different parts of his body.

Sanico was declared dead on arrival at the Bohol Community Hospital.

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South Leyte doctors take nursing courses for jobs abroad

By Jun Nevado
PDI Visayas Bureau

SOGOD CITY—Doctors at the provincial hospital have found a cure for their financial woes—take a nursing course and go abroad.

Thirteen doctors at the South-ern Leyte Integrated Provincial Hospital Office (SPHO) in Barangay Mantahan are taking up nursing at the San Lorenzo Ruiz School of Nursing in Sogod City, Leyte.

They are among the 20 doctors who are taking special classes on Saturday and Sunday offered especially for doctors.

The other members come from Limasawa and the nearby towns of Bontoc and Tomas Oppus.

Dr. Leodelia Rodriguez, SPHO chief of clinic and who was one of those enrolled.

Southern Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias said she was "stunned" when she learned that 13 of the 20 doctors at the SPHO are taking nursing courses.

She said she would talk to the doctors to see if because it appeared that they perceive the need to earn more rather than be of service to people in the province.

Rodriguez said they decided to take up nursing in case there would be no opportunity to work abroad where salaries were higher compared to what they receive here, which she said was "not enough."

"And besides, on 6th don't changed as compared to other doctors who are working in so-called governmental entities," Rodriguez added.

"Other government doctors are receiving much more than us who are on call 24 hours," she said, referring to doctors who are working from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

But Rodriguez said their enrollment should not be a cause for worry because they would have to finish the course in three or four years and then take the board exams and the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools if they wanted to leave the service and work abroad.

She also gave assurances that they would not jeopardize their services at the hospital because "our duty should come first before our studies."

Dr. Leonardo Boaz, SPHO chief of hospitals, was not concerned about the decrease of the 13 doctors, especially those not one of the enrollees was from the emergency department.

These who enrolled were obstetrician, gynecologists, pediatricians and general practitioners and were receiving at least P20,000 a month, he said.

"I am not worried at all. We have several nurses in the hospital who are applying the jobs abroad but have not left although they have completed the requirements," said Boaz.

"What I resented is that they have enrolled without asking our permission first," he added.

Boaz said the concerned doctors had asked private doctors to temporarily take over their jobs when they attended nursing classes in Ormoc, about two hours away from Maasin.

But he said he wanted the agreement to be put to "black and white" although he has no intention to cancel the agreement.

"I want a written agreement from private practitioners that have requested to pitch in for those who are attending their classes," Boaz said.

Boaz admitted that there is a shortage of doctors in the province because of the retirement of Southern Leyte Governor Rosette Lerias and Sogod—and about 10 doctors "but not to add with those who resigned."

May peak season for tourism in Chocolate Hills

By Chito A. Chavez
PDI Visayas Bureau

TAGBILARAN CITY—The month of May proved to be peak season for tourists when the Chocolate Hills complex in Carmen town posted nearly P1 million in income, the provincial board (PB) tourism committee reported.

Board Member Elsie Gonzaga Galbreath, tourism committee chairman, said the provincial government of Bohol (Provincial Chocolate Hills complex recorded a total net income of P446,202.37 last May.

The records showed combined income since the complex reopened to the income of P452,128. She added that quarter last year.

Reporting in a session chaired by Bohol Vice Gov. Julius Hibionada Monday, Galbreath said most of the net income came from toll, which totaled P428,775.30. The profit from consigned goods amassed to P338,972.04.

The complex showcases a cooing chalet in the world-famous Chocolate Hills. It also offers commercial and hotel accommodations to the highest elevation in Carmen town.

But Galbreath was disappointed over the weak performance of the complex restaurant and hotel, which reported a net income of only P87,706.71.

The committee also recommended that the provincial board "continuously scrutinize" succeeding reports to "safeguard the operations" of the complex, described as a "top private government tourist attraction."

They were not the first time that the provincial board expressed disappointment over the profit-measure of the complex facilities.

Last year, the provincial board questioned why the restaurant and hotel recorded only P63,816.94 in the first quarter when income level during the same period was "remarkably" higher at P334,128.

The provincial board members Pelit Uy to wonder why the privately-owned Sagbaran Peak was making money "despite being only a second option" to the Carmen complex.

Situated in neighboring Sagbayan town, the Peak offers another view of the chocolate hills facing Cebu.

Cabbie 62nd victim of Davao vigilantes

DAVAO CITY—A 39-year-old taxi driver, described by his peers as a good man, became the 62nd victim of summary execution in Davao.

PO1 Alfredo Helmac, investigator of the San Pedro police station, said Jaime Ramos Jr. of Barangay Ilang was found with a single bullet wound in the head at the Sasa Town Village in Barangay Ilang, inside the taxi in his own cabin.

Helmac said they were still trying to find out the motive behind the incident's mastermind.

Investigators, he said, recovered P1,870 from the pocket of the victim's polo shirt and P147 from the taxi's driver's seat.

A spent shell of a .45 cal. pistol was recovered inside the blood-stained taxi.

Helmac said based on a fresh ground check they conducted, Dexter Santos, resident of Barangay Bunawan in Talomo District, Davao police record.

In his Sunday follow driver told reporters he was friendly and had no known enemies.

The cabbie was the supposed 58th victim and could become a victim of summary execution.

The unsolved killings in the city have already now been among suspected felons. —Darlene Alcalde, PDI Mindanao Bureau

METRO

E-mail: pi_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Desk Editors: Carmen B. Nitos, Xavier G. Dipasupil

QC crime rate tops Metro list

By Nicole Pajo

QUEZON City has recorded the most number of crimes in Metro Manila for the first seven months of the year.

The National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) revealed this even as it reported that the current number of crime incidents in the metropolis had gone down ten percent compared to the same period last year.

In the figures released every day by the NCRPO, Quezon City listed the highest number of crimes reported, with 12,066 from January to July. Caloocan City was second with 11,209 incidents.

But the Metro Manila police said the 9,023 crime incidents for the entire National Capital Region was lower than the 10,030 crimes recorded for the same period last year.

94 percent solved

The NCRPO also boasted that of the crimes reported, Metro Manila policemen solved a total of 63,549 cases or 94.74 percent.

The police in Quezon City posted a crime solution rate of 91.71 percent, while those in Caloocan City posted a solution rate of 66.57 percent.

Pasay City could be the safest city in Metro Manila with only 21 crime incidents recorded so far. This was followed by Marikina with 1,061 crimes.

Index crimes, or crimes against persons as well as robbery and theft, also went down to 4,691 from last year's 4,819.

Also, there was a total of 1,332 incidents of non-index crimes, which are drug-related and include illegal gambling, murder and swindling among others.

The figure is lower by 17 percent compared to the 5,218 incidents recorded last year.

NCRPO chief Director Rosendo de Leon attributed the decrease in crime incidents to intensified police operations, which include the setting up of checkpoints.

Havens for herons in the city

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THEY found a home. And they are likely to keep it.

Black-crowned night herons and other migratory birds that discovered a new home in the tree swamps of Balintawak City will soon be safe from bird hunters and those with a taste for exotic bird meat.

City officials are now pending for the declaration of several acres in the city as bird sanctuaries, days after a wounded heron was found recently on Sunday in Barangay Mabolo.

On Wednesday, city Councilor Ritchie Gadiza, chair of the environment committee, with Councilor Gerry Espinas, proposed an ordinance to declare Barangays Colorong, Tupalay, Balangbas, Ilo, Sitio Pule and Malinao as bird sanctuaries or protected areas.

Residents caught catching, selling or killing the birds would have to pay fines of up to P5,000 and jail of at least 30 days, according to the proposal.

Black-crowned night herons, also called tapsoncitos, are migratory birds usually found in coastal areas in several countries. Herons eat fish and therefore thrive in wetlands.

Sightings

They are also common in Southeast Asian countries like Taiwan, Indonesia and Malaysia.

There have been frequent sightings of herons in the Philippines. In the metropolis, herons are often seen in the coastal areas of the sleepy-city But ecologists say birds are not endemic in the country, they leave after several breaks.

On Tuesday a team from radio station dzBB found a wounded heron near Villa Encarnacion in Barangay Malabon.

The heron, later named Obet, was brought to the Wildlife Rescue Center of the environment department in Quezon City where it is undergoing treatment.

The rescue brought to public attention the plight of hundreds of herons and other migratory birds which, unknown to many, have already been living in an urban setting for a few years now.

Only temporary

Environment president Lorenzo Ilagayan, who lives in Villa Encarnacion, told the Inquirer he first saw herons in their villages in 2000.

But the herons did not stay long.

After catching fish from a pond beside the village—a former farmland now under water because of excessive flooding—the herons would fly away.

But several months later, Ilagayan and his neighbors noticed that the herons had built small building nests on the pond.

From then on, the herons stayed near the village. And their population grew.

Bird song

Villagers say they have grown used to the chirping of the birds, especially at night.

"Masarap silang pakinggan. Para silang mga batang naglalaro [It's nice listening to them. They sound like children at play]," Ilagayan added.

The herons have also become weather indicators. When a storm is approaching, the birds are seen leaving and nowhere, and Bobbie Villanueva, another resident.

Some bird experts said this was the first reported case of breeding among herons in Metro Manila.

But just as the herons try to pay to the villagers, some residents have taken to hunting them down for food or sport.

Apart from the proposed ordinance, Gadiza said they were planning to declare the covered areas as eco-tourism spots.

Protection

Forums would also be held to educate residents about the need to protect migratory birds.

Six years ago, the mass hunting of migratory birds were also reported by concerned residents in Manalo town, Pampanga.

Environmentalists decried the growing practice of bird hunters who had targeted flocks because of the difficulty in capturing adult herons.

Ecology advocates warned against the practice, saying that it could cause the species to die out if left unchecked.

The birds were also found in the neighboring municipality of Candaba, where they had relocated after species to their breeding ground.

Night herons usually thrive in swamps and marshes, and make their homes in colonies.

A BLACK-CROWNED night heron, known locally as Balane Gabi, flies off from a twig to search for its mate in a mangrove tree that has grown in a marshland in Valenzuela City. Inset shows another night heron resting in the trees. (DAN ALVAREZ)

Warrant out for Freddie Aguilar nephew; family to protest

By Luige del Puerto and Tina G. Santos

ADVANCED

That is the advice of the police to Jason Tribo, the 22-year-old Filipino-American who figured in the vehicular accident where a Mabalacat official was killed.

The affidavit he is charged with is available, said Supt. Ernesto Camengit. "He could always post bail," the official added.

On Friday, the Pasig Metropolitan Trial Court issued an arrest warrant against Tribo, who faces charges of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide, physical injuries and damage to property.

Deadly mishap

The warrant stemmed from a car accident on Aug. 8, wherein Undersecretary Nestor Pimentel, presidential assistant for rural development, was killed.

Mothers Aguilar, Tribo's mother and sister of singer Freddie Aguilar, met the Inquirer yesterday that policemen were in their home in Blue Ridge, Quezon City, yesterday morning to serve the warrant. However, the lawmen did not find Tribo.

Camengit urged Tribo to go to the police station, rather than wait for them to arrest him.

After he posts bail, Tribo and the family of Pimco could let the case take its course, the official said.

But Aguilar questioned the validity of the warrant against her son. She said her lawyers had told her that it did not go through the proper process.

Aguilar noted that the warrant was issued "hastily" and did not even pass through the required preliminary investigation.

"I couldn't believe that a warrant could be issued that fast," she said, adding that her lawyers would contest its legality.

"Why would I surrender my son or post bail if, in the first place, the warrant is questionable? My son is free until proven guilty," Aguilar stressed.

Asked when her son was, Aguilar said, "He's with the family [in] he's not staying in the house."

The sister of singer Freddie Aguilar also questioned the integrity of the Pasig City police station handling the case.

"In this point I no longer trust the police," she said, adding, "All I am asking was for them to be fair in their investigation. But how can I rely on them (policemen) when they even 'cleaned' the scene of the accident before they called the members of the Scene of the Crime Operation. Why did they do that?"

Aguilar related that being a daughter of a former policeman, she "knows all the forbiddances." Antidotum tip mga pulis (those rogues of policemen)."

She decided that her son had been refusing to cooperate with the investigators.

Not ready for interview

"How can they say that? They were at the hospital when the doctor told them that the patient was not in the proper frame of mind to give any interview," she said.

She added that Jeff even volunteered to undergo a drug and neurological test to show that he was under the influence of liquor or drugs when the accident happened.

But the result of the tests has yet to be released, Aguilar said.

Tribo, the eldest of three children, is a Filipino-American studying hydrology in Hawaii. He is on vacation in the country and was supposed to leave yesterday.

What spurred arrest warrant:

- BRIAGE II, a Gumtay, the Toyota Prado driven by Jason Tribo bumped over the center island of the C-5 (Ortigas Avenue Pasong) and crashed into Bus Isuzu Transco of Dimension Way Glenn Forbes.
- Forbes died in the accident, while the latter was slightly injured.

JASON Tribo with cousin Meagan Aguilar

Lawmen in Manila to tie knot

By Lolo B. Salaverria

POLICEMEN in Manila who want to tie the knot but are short of funds or time to organize a wedding would soon get their chance to fulfill their wish.

The Western Police District is planning a mass wedding next month for policemen who are either single or married only in civil rites. Its aim is to promote a moral lifestyle among them.

The mass wedding would be held on Sept. 20, the feast day of St. Michael the Archangel, patron saint of policemen.

It is recommended that Aug. 30 WPD Chaplain Ronald Castillo and only Manila policemen and non-uniformed personnel in Manila are participate in the event.

Community leader Albina Peczon; 102

ALBINA David Peczon, the first woman graduate of the University of the Philippines College of Pharmacy (1925), and a native of Pampanga province, died last Tuesday at the age of 102.

She was buried yesterday at the Loyola Memorial Park.

Peczon received the Hamayagan (baliuag) award in 1998 at the age of 96 for "dedicating her life in the service of her family, community and the nation at large."

She raised five children who became productive members of society: Gerardo (married to the late Arturo Ortanez), Jose (married to Simeon Villaflor), Albina (married to the late Fernando V. Fernandez), Ildefonso (deceased, married to Evelyn Villegas) and Benigno (married to Elvira Gonzalez). She still enjoys being remembered as "Tatang" by all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, having had an exemplary life in the service of others.

Arms shipment seized

By Leila B. Salaverria

A MAN accompanying or ship 18 firearms to Cebu was arrested Friday when the Coast Guard discovered that some of the guns had no proper licenses.

Undersecretary Ernesto Clemente Jr., who told authorities that the firearms he had been carrying were the property of a security agency in Cebu.

The guns, which consisted of 11 pump-action shot guns and six .38-caliber revolvers, were confiscated and taken to the Coast Guard's National Capital Region headquarters for safekeeping.

In a report, the PCG-NCR said the firearms were initially spotted by members of the San Blas check with K-9 units that were conducting inspections at the Sta Mesapagod Terminal of Pier 15 on Friday morning.

The guns were supposed to be loaded on the Superferry 16 bound for Cebu.

When the operatives found the firearms, they asked Cayetano to show documents that would prove he was authorized to carry and ship such guns. However, Cayetano failed to produce the permits for two of the shotguns and six of the revolvers.

Sunday BIZ
Business/Finance Editor Margie Quiroga-Espino

Hits and misses before joining the major leagues

ANNIE with only daughter Janina, wearing her last creation which Janina wore during her Vienna Opera Ball.

By Margie Quiroga-Espino

SHE: With the party girl of the '80s Today, she is known as the Popcorn Queen.

Anna Maria Tanchanco nova Tanco, the brain of popcorn and snack stand Annie's Secret Recipe that adopts a sporty baseball look in red and white.

But life was not always light and cripsy like her snacks. She had her share of hits and misses, before hitting the home run.

FIRST JOB

Life used to be one big party for Annie.

But, after 10 years of doing the night life with her husband, the cars repossessed and Annie was left to raise her three kids on an P8,000 monthly support and proceeds from the sale of a property paid over two years.

She had no job, but she had talent. An entrepreneurial spirit came over of a mood.

Annie actually wanted to be an artist. But there was no room for creativity in her family of professionals. Her father was an actuary, her mom, a chemistry engineer. Her aunts and uncles were lawyers. To them, art was just not a "practical course."

Thus, she took up Economics, which she finished in three years.

In 1980, she landed a job at the then-to-current Multinational Nanufacturing, which had the lowest salary offer of P5,000 a month. She took it anyway, because she felt it would give her the best training.

"It was like I was back in school. I would do research papers, submit it and it was checked by the old man (Annie's husband)," Annie says.

Her early marriage cut short her career. She wanted to pursue her but a difficult pregnancy got in the way so she quit before she even started.

After giving birth, she became a party animal, grazing all the evening events and winning most of the costume parties. That was the place she met her husband around the Go Disco along Roxas Boulevard.

A second child came all too soon, along with an obsession with Bruno.

She says, pursued her Bruno do until she was a blue belt and went to the gym twice a day. She even launched the first discotheque in Manila.

Life for Annie was fun, but the artist in her was longing for fulfillment. Her love creative outlet was her costumes.

One time, she hired a girl to help her create beaded clothes, which she exhibited at her husband's disco. They were instant hits. The people clamored for more, but she did not know how to get her clothes.

Her clothes got the same reception when she flew to the US with two suitcases full of her beaded clothes. She visited the top night spots, like Studio 54, and she was frequently stopped by people who wanted to know where she got her clothes.

In 1986, she went to Henri Bendel, a exclusive store in New York, to show off her clothes. It immediately placed an order and she got as much as $600 a piece.

Fresh from the success of her first entrepreneurial venture, she set up shop in a small apartment. She augmented her innate talent with formal training in pattern making at the Parsons School of Design in New York.

She says a good dress is defined by the way a person is made and the cloth is cut.

Her clients included the richest Chinese in Manila, some of whom were her classmates at the Chinese convent she was working out in. Her label was Annina. Die Wiener word for Love and the name of her youngest child and only daughter. But the business was not sustained.

"I never wanted to mass produce the dresses," she says.

Knowing however that there is a market for mass-based products, Annie took the advice of a friend who showed her Cane Logic, the Filipino line of D'Datu/Jennifer Lopez jeans.

In 1988, she scanned materials and sewers and came up with Bulla, supplying Landmark, Odyssey, Rustans. But it was not long before China went into the same business and she had no choice but to stop production.

GRADUATION day at the Asian Institute of Management when Annie completed the Master in Entrepreneurship program.

Hits and misses before joining the major leagues

When she and Sonny called it quits in 2001, Annie says she had nothing left except Jonina and it was not a regular source of income. For a while she had to join her aunt (just to call the behavior of his Cebu.

That same year, she invested in a food business called Mr. Crispee via the Ilocos Food Industries, saying her own money.

Instead of being her ticket to success, Mr. Crispee led her to near bankruptcy. Ilocos closed shop and she never got her money back.

Her father came to help and convinced her to help him in his real estate projects. Annie says the chief, and even passed the broker's licensing exams, but she really did not like what she was doing.

By 1994, she was desperate to find a steady source of income.

TATERS first store in Greenbelt Square Cinema

WITH first son JP

AT THE height of her party days, Annie would wear costumes that always won her the top awards.

She again turned to her father for help in getting a commercial space in the Ayala commercial center.

She had no idea what to do or what to sell, but she thought it was a good opportunity.

She was given an 8.5-square-meter space near the Greenbelt 123 cinema. Since it was near the movie house, the thought of selling popcorn, and nuts that she and her kids love to eat when watching movies.

The popular snack food then was Potato Corner, the chain of Russel French fries.

She experimented with her own kind of fries, and after that she worked on the look of her shop.

"I wanted something that looks American to play on the Filipino's colonial mentality. I wanted a designer popcorn store," Annie recalls.

Along with the popcorn came other snacks that Annie knew usually bought at baseball games.

Coming up with a catchy name came next.

She gathered her family for dinner and asked them to suggest names. It was her father who suggested Taters, which is slang for potatoes. She immediately drew the name and thought of the color scheme.

In keeping with the baseball look, she used stripes in red and white.

One week before opening, she hosted a a flavored popcorn party. The most popular was the popcorn in sour cream and chives.

Annie knew she hit the ground runs when long queues greeted Taters when it opened. As if to make up for her failed businesses, she got back her investment in Taters in just three months.

"I never counted so much money in my life. Sales reached P50,000 to P60,000 a day," she says.

The chance for her products prompted her to expand her space in 20 square meters. Next a month in 1994 was P10,000 per square meter, as Taters now paying P200,000 in monthly rent.

But it was not success all the way.

At first, nobody wanted to give her space in other malls. When they did, they dictated the products she could sell. Then she fell prey to overexpansion, operating as many as 20 stores at one time.

Annie admits these were costly mistakes. She opened in malls which were not her market, like finally concentrated on her niche, which was the 6-8 crowd.

Gradually she failed ventures, she never tire selling vegetarian food, via Chimara.

"Chimara is my legacy," Annie says. "It's a business that can mean something. It is dedicated to something good to the heart."

Chimara struggled for six months after it opened at the Greenbelt 3 cinemas.

As lessons learned, and she now expects to get a return on her investment this year. A second shop is also in the works.

Today there are seven Taters outlets, most of which are joint ventures between Taters and investors.

Annie says she is finalizing her TIEE terms in preparation for her expansion to Asia.

Expansion outside the Philippines will mark the second decade of Taters Enterprises Inc.

Taters turns 10 years this August and Annie will celebrate this with the decade awards which will recognize the 10 top grossing films of the past 10 years and Taters business partners.

Annie knows she has joined the big league when Ayala gave her a spot in Glorietta 5 where multinational food and coffee shops are.

Label speaks candidly about Pinoy jazz artists

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

LOOK, artists Melika Adams, Irina and Enrique Hanson will soon join the ranks of internationally renowned jazz vocalists Sherry Kent, Monica Santamaria and Gavin Colfum.

This is the fervent dream of Nieves Puertas-Bates, who runs independent jazz record label Candid Records, together with her husband, Alan, from their headquarters in the United Kingdom.

Although instrumental standouts continues to elude Filipino artists, Bates is unfazed, saying she will always bet on the prospects of Filipinos having a big in the jazz circuit abroad.

"If we feel that the artist has that X factor, we will sign them up. And so far, we have been successful in spotting those talents," Bates says.

Candid Records' stable of talents include American vocalist Sherry Kent, named BBC Jazz Singer of the Year, known for her classic interpretation of the Great American Songbook; her trademark saxophonist Jim Tomlinson, and so-called "Sinatra in Sneakers," Jamie Cullum.

Bates says bringing Filipino artists to the forefront of the international recording scene is part of her mission to get the heritage Filipinos to hear and appreciate the Filipinos' famed brand of music genius.

This feat is Pergamino tactics who since emerged in jazz and in other musical forms, until she married her husband.

"I was not interested in it my self because it was all instrumental. But later, I realized that it could have words as well. I soon got hooked on it," she says.

MISHKA Adams

ENRIQUE Hanson

IRINA

NIEVES and Alan Bates with daughter Sheela

That musical appreciation became the foundation of the Bates' Candid Records, which has established a reputation as the primary label for jazz recordings—the UK equivalent of Verve or Blue Note records of the United States.

Candid Records actually traces its beginnings to New York City in 1960, specializing in modern and mainstream jazz. Bates, Luiz and world jazz. Its catalog includes recordings by such legends as Charles Mingus, Abbey Lincoln, Cecil Taylor, Booker Little, Coleman Hawkins and Eric Dolphy. Unfortunately, it closed shop in 1961 due to some financial difficulties.

In priceless catalog gathered dust for decades, until 1986, when the Bates, through their London-based firm Black Lion Productions, bought the company.

Alan and Nieves, together with from professionals, breathed new life into the vintage recordings and issued remastered versions of the most essential classics by the forgotten jazz greats.

In 1989, the new and improved Candid Records resumed recording and started gathering a new set of talents.

Alan manages the production side of the business, while Nieves takes care of the operations, including the finance and human resources.

Candid Records' newest gold talent is signed up Sherry Kent in 1998.

Other record companies lined up kicking themselves because Kent actually submitted her demo tape to other firms before Candid Records snatched her up.

"It actually took us a little while to sign her up because we did not have to hear tapes immediately. But when we did, we knew we had a winner," she says.

Bates expresses the same enthusiasm for the Filipino artists, whose albums should be out in the market later this year or early next year.

"We are proud to say that Candid Records is becoming known again on the streets and is seen as an important label. We want it to become the breeding ground of good artists, including our sons," Bates says.

She says Candid Records now receives demo tapes from all over the world, and this time, she hints, as she is more confident in her ability to spot winners.

So far, jazz tops all kinds of music.

"It is wonderful because it provides smooth, easy listening. It appeals to anyone," Bates says.

And by the time she and her husband fulfill their mission to take Candid Records "as far as it can go," she means Cibi by Pilipino artists to be on top of any jazz lover's listening list.

New payment scheme for QC housing dev't

TO MEET market demand, a new payment scheme has been rolled out for The Legacy at Montgomery Place along E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue in Quezon City. The in-house scheme requires a 20 percent down payment, 10 monthly amortizations and a 70-percent balloon payment from the buyer after the month 10 amortizations.

The balloon payment can be financed through the bank if the buyer chooses and will be due when the unit becomes ready for occupancy.

With this new scheme, Ayala Land Inc., the developer, hopes to sell the remaining single-detached units by yearend.

ALI reports that since the development was launched last June, more than 90 percent of the 27 units in Tranche 1 had already been sold. 48 units were on cash or deferred cash basis only.

The new interest-in-house deferred payment scheme requires a 20 percent down payment and 20 monthly amortizations, with the final monthly amortization due just when the unit becomes ready for occupancy.

The maximum 8 percent discount is enjoyed by the buyer who makes full payment within 30 days, and a discount of 6 percent is extended if full payment is made from 31 to 60 days. Financing schemes that suit the buyers can also be arranged with banks such as BPI-Family and Union Bank.

The Legacy at Montgomery Place is a pocket residential development of ALI. It is a suburbia away from Manila, Greenhills, and the Ortigas area and is accessible by public transportation.

Two model units dressed up by the company's interior designers, Architect Alberto and PV Consultants & Associates, can be viewed during the themed open houses that are held regularly. With just a limited number of units left, interested buyers are entertained on a first come, first served basis.

Inspired by the so-called "trasher architecture" of houses in southern United States, the units in The Legacy follow the split-level concept that provides maximum room and space.

The target market is businessmen in their 30s to early 40s who have been living in Quezon City. Maintenance of the resort development is provided by the Ayala Property Management Corp. (For inquiries, call 848-3000.)

THE SHANGRI-LA Plaza Mall has opened its newly renovated cinema complex named the Shangri-la Complex. The mall was named Best Shopping Center 2003 by the Department of Trade and Industry and the Philippine Retailers Association. It will host the Intelbuy Magazine National Retail Congress on Oct. 2-3 where the public gets to attend live talks on parenting, children's wellness, building a kiddie party. Exhibitors are still welcome. For inquiries call 891-0574 or 848-3851.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Walking tall with GMA

Our diminutive but brainy President is an excellent example that great things come in small packages

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

QUALITY MOMENTS: 1. President GMA and son, head on head; 2. British Ambassador Paul Dimond and Speaker Jose de Venecia; 3. Quality Bill for Philippines editor Carmen Pedrico and publisher Max Gabrielsen's President GMA; 4. HSBC PR Lara Santos with Thomas 'Joel' Ramos

TIME management is really one of the most difficult tasks one has to do these days. This is especially so for someone who doesn't have a 9-to-5 job. When one does not have to rise in the vicinity of nine per more complicated because there is no definite line between work and play.

In most architectural and interior design firms, there are times when you are swamped with projects and then there are the dog days, when your staff sits by twiddling their thumbs waiting to punch out. It seems this is the way it's been for me. One day you're in every show with a full schedule, then after your 15 minutes of fame are up, you're left functionless and uninspired.

Keeping the proper balance of family, work, exercise and socials is the most challenging part of my life. Once, I celebrated my son, Tyrone, asking his eyes why Mommy is always out at night. My ex-husband Ricardo explained to him that his mom has the right shift in the social world and so has to be pre-

Walking tall with GMA

From page C1

sent in wearisomeness.

Well, clearly Tuvera's comments resulted in a few gushy feelings, so I decided to limit my functions to those that are given by friends and, of course, the Bench "Undressmanner" show (a night of thrill once a year). I wonder if there is any software that can get me life more organized, prioritize the events in my social calendar and keep me home to time to rest my frail, tired sight.

At the launch of the publication and website of Quality Britain Philippines, I witnessed how the mall'ed President GMA scheduled her activities and monitored her time in the event. With her mind on more important issues, the least of her worries is figuring out which social events to attend. If she can manage her time properly and she is heading a whole nation, why can't I balance my social life?

As I greeted the President, she whispered to me that she enjoyed reading my article but needs advice on my fashion choice: my height. I was so flattered that I was part of her Sunday reading. She commented that our photo together had a better composition than that of myself with Lucy Torres. But with my blonde wig and orange feathers that evening, I can say I was taller than her, at least for one night! Our dear President is an excellent example that great things come in small packages.

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment." This was shared to me in an e-mail from a tall and statuesque Gabriela Bonifacio. She wrote, "He could not have been more correct when it comes to you. I admire the courage you have to be yourself and dress yourself up as it pleases you. We all get encouraged seeing you in your many wonderful costumes. You are a female of fresh air! He don't worry too much about your height. Just see to it that you are full of confidence, vibrant and joyful, that a tall woman who is lean and lacking the confidence it takes to carry her height." Thank you, Sabrina. It's comments like yours that make my job of writing for friends truly a wonderful experience.

Pure energy at 48

The e-mail was a rare feel-great about being short. Good cheer must have been in the air last week because we felt so loved after watching the concert of Gary Valenciano. The last Gary V concert I attended (I have become a diehard fan ever since Ahron Dominguez of Anonymous invited me many, many concerts ago) was pure energy from beginning to end. I was not only jumping and dancing for joy, I was shaking my bones trying to groove in the aisles. The show is always an inspirational event. My ever-irreverent husband Jeremy asked me, "Does this mean we don't need to go to Mass on Sunday?" Our religious friend Mia Bonnevacia told that maybe because of the throng we didn't have to go to Mass for two months. But by the time the concert was over, all of us decided we were "inspired" for the rest of the year!

Several personalities were flashed on the wide screen, and the loudest cheers were that for Sen. Eddie Villanueva, with Aga Muhlach coming in a close second. I guess they are closely his crowd. Personally I felt it was even across the board. We all have the same God anyway. I missed Angelli's number, who was sitting beside me, holding a runny while waving her hands in the air.

Backing an talent

The HSBC Premiere Overseas Concert was a totally different atmosphere. The exclusive concert for its premiere customers was an evening of Hollywood theme songs sung by the concert's top performers, including Tony member Lea Salonga, diva Asian Pop and versatile Robert Seña. The Company also joined in, providing a pleasant mix of songs, but my favorite was the musical version of the Flintstones.

Another musical first that evening was a song by Gerard Salonga, the equally talented brother of Lea. He says also the music director while playing keyboards. What an amazing asset! I can't even sing in the shower or play Chopsticks on the piano. But at least I know I can dance, so I can't wait for the Lady Luha Show to perform early next year. I will surely take the night away.

It was generosity of HSBC to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation that evening, as proceeds went to this charity that grants wishes to cancer-stricken kids. Good health is truly a blessing. Gary V has been a favorite diabetic for over 20 years and yet his celebration every time blessings, which is still very Gary's. In the past had a stroke in his right eye (but is out of the hospital already), rendering him 50 percent blind. This avid photographer released just last week an all-photo book about his son. God truly works in mysterious ways. Others for shortcomings shown. He operates his ancestors if one is lucky, sometimes this does leads to a shopping mall!

E-mail me at sunlifenews@inquirer.com.ph.

HSBC CONCERT. 1. Lea Salonga, Robert Seña, Anna Fegi and The Company; 2. Vina Morales with lovely daughter Melissa enjoying the show; 3. Maria Isnen's Suzy and Paqui Ortigas; 4. Brilliant minds, HSBC CEO Wai-ser Manning and chairman Jose Maria Peralta; 5. Roberto Romulo with daddy's girl Patricia Nicolasora; 6. Stylish Bonnie Cabarrus with Xavier's Annan San Diego; 7. Longtime family friends Cory and Nancy Alindogan; 8. Malen Ji Wah circle of friends; 9. Martin Cook of HSBC with diva Anna Fegi

GARY V HAPPENING. 1. Happy family—Anthony and Marisol Pangilinan with their kids; 2. Cute cheerkin couple Aga Muhlach and Charlene Gonzales; 3. Gary bos Bernina Ocampo and Mia Bonnevacia; 4. ABS-CBN boss Cino Benjamin with wife Cynthia and Gary's better half, Angel Valenciano; 5. Anonymous family—Alexa and Celina Ocampo; 6. Funny girl Candy Pangilinan with Angeli's mom, Emma; 7. Gary's sister Gina Martinez with the Sea Princess; 8. Pretty Marjorie Barretto Pulido

Small businesses get into the big league

SHELL souvenirs

THESE artificial flowers are beautifully arranged by members of an Ilocos cooperative.

LAMP from Pasamaka

SM Southmall and SM City Baesa have opened Livelihood Centers to help micro entrepreneurs and community cooperatives market their products.

The project was initiated by SM Foundation to help small enterprises gradually get into the economic mainstream.

The centers have around 63 to 66 kiosks. The entrepreneurs were selected by the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), the Technology and Livelihood Research Center (TLRC), the Technological Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) and the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA).

Among the items available at the centers are ornamental plants, handwoven bags, wood and shell craft items, handmade soap and body products, and native delicacies. Also available are ceramics, beaded necklaces, candles and candleholders, furniture, framed artworks, cosmetics, and fashion accessories.

Simple ceremonies marked the opening of SM Foundation's Livelihood Center at the SM City Baesa. The ceremonies included the signing of a memorandum of agreement, ribbon-cutting, and speeches by project proponents.

Representatives of partner agencies attended the event—PBSP director Eden Lardet, CDA's Nell Sonia Dilan, Tesda's Amelia Fajardo and TLRC's Bruno Garcia. SM Foundation was represented by executive director Debby Ty and Connie Angeles, and SM Supermalls senior assistant vice president for leasing Daisy Chua.

The SM Livelihood Centers are at the lower ground floors of SM City Baesa and SM Southmall.

SM Livelihood Centers are located in the lower GFs of SM City Baesa and SM Southmall.

LEYTE Countryside Entrepreneurship's Christmas roses, lanterns and décor made of capiz shells

THE WELL-MANICURED garden behind The Manor

Camp John Hay's development tries to harmonize commercial aspirations with nature preservation

The best of both worlds at Camp John Hay

Text and photos by Bobbi V. Bumbac

SOME people say a trip to Baguio City would not be complete without a visit to Camp John Hay, a 250-ha nature preserve and private hotel dotted with over 250,000 pine trees. They might just be right.

The camp is one of the few places in Baguio where one can get close to nature once again. Here you can get out of nature-walk, watch the butterflies or just sit on the deck of the famous Manor and eat Manila out for a few hours.

John Hay marries the best of both worlds. Land development and nature preservation. Most of the camp's spectacular forested areas—untouched by high-rise structures—are managed threefold. They have parks, lush gardens and pleasant picnic spots, offering an endless variety of recreational, environmental and cultural activities positive for everyone.

Once a exclusive place for American military personnel based in the Philippines, the camp was turned over to the Philippine government by virtue of the Treaty of Manila in 1947, the Philippine government took over the camp and eventually leased it to SUBIC BAY for conversion into a mixed leisure/residential.

Now, Camp John Hay Development Corp. (CJHDC) and the John Hay Management Corp. are moving more aggressively to turn the historic Benedicto "playground" into a premier recreational, tourism development and home recreational facility.

Eco-friendly development

While developers insist the old recreation motion to prosper as a world-class resort, they want to ensure that forested areas remain intact. They believe development should not destroy nature but "enhance it."

"Even at John Hay even dying trees are permitted to be cut off of reasons. In fact, we were hired experts from the US to do 'tree surgery' on some dying trees about three years ago. We can't just let them die because most of these trees are centuries-old," says Shaun Bell, senior vice president for marketing and sales of JHDevCo.

But of the camp's development is the ongoing construction of residential units for the section called the Estates. The current interpretation the best characteristics of a first-class residential community.

"With the Estates, we can fulfill every Filipino family's dream of a new kind of lifestyle in a decent, tranquil environment," says Bell.

Offering a unit in the Estates means living surrounded by a lush pine forest, away from the noise, pollution and traffic of the city. You can spend your free time gardening, spend your leisure for to enjoy a game of golf in well-manicured fairways.

"Majority of the people who have already (acquired) homes here are those who have retired from work, usually 50 years old and above. For them, getting a unit here is a reward they give to themselves," says Bell.

The camp offers 75 prime lots on a 99-year lease to select clients. Different options are available depending on your budget.

The Country Homes near the golf course are three-story three-bedroom units with attics.

The Country Log Homes are single-detached, two-story houses with attics. Cedar logs from Cotabato are used for the exterior while Philippine hardwood planks are used for interior walls.

The Country Log Homes feature red cedar logs from North America. The three-story, three-bedroom unit has a floor area of over 320 sq m.

In the Forest Cabins at the Scout Hill area are two-story duplex units with two or three bedrooms each, a fireplace and other amenities. Interiors have a mixture of Baguio stone and logs.

"Once settled here, families get more humane—clean air, well-preserved landscaped areas and a feeling of refuge within the complex," says Bell.

THE COUNTRY Home

COUNTRY Log Home

CEMETERY of Heguidrians

THE BUTTERFLY Sanctuary is a pet-manned attraction at the Camp.

Superb facilities

Complementing the residential development project of the camp are the wide range of facilities and amenities offered to the family.

The world-renowned 18-hole, par 69 golf course was redesigned by legendary golfer Jack Nicklaus. The clubhouse has showers and locker rooms, saunas and massage, pro-shop, bar and restaurant.

The Manor, built when the Mine Club used to be, is a 169-room facility that exudes memories of the old Baguio. The nice rooms near windows open to enjoy the fresh air, summer to reports that an quickly has rejuvenated inside John Hay.

The Manor reportedly has a 70-80 percent occupancy rate annually, almost twice the average occupancy rate of Manila hotels. In the summer, it is offering a stay-one, take-one package on rooms. You stay for two nights but pay only for one.

Beside The Manor is a second cordoned called The Suites, a 287-unit facility to be completed by end of the year.

The fully operational CAP John Hay Trade and Cultural Center is at the heart of what is going to be the community's hub. The center is perfect for conventions, seminars, exhibits, stage plays, concerts and special social events. The impressive two-and-half-story hall can accommodate 3,000 people was the venue of the last Advertising Congress.

Something for everyone

Traditions are preserved at the camp both for human interest and historical reasons. The living memorials called the CJH Historical Core features a collection of memorabilia, in and old photos that speak of the colorful history of Camp John Hay.

The Bell House and Amphitheater is the centerpiece of the Core, showcasing the artistic flair and design genius of a military man. Today it is the repository of the artifacts that give a glimpse of the camp's history.

The interesting Cemetery of Memories supposedly served as a "burial ground" for regular daughters of American military men.

A visit to the camp will also give you access to several outdoor activities. The 2.1-km run trail allows you to jet up close and personal with nature. You can go horseback-riding in the forest at the Stables at Kiangan or hunt wild.

A must see is the butterfly Sanctuary, a garden where you can learn about traditional butterfly hunting and captive-breeding techniques.

The newly modernized Mile 55 Center, a commercial shopping strip inside the camp, has a drug store, fine restaurants, bakeshop, souvenir and novelty outlets.

If entertaining with nature is not your style, then go food-tripping at The Manor, which has a delicacies and a restaurant run by chef Billy Ging. You can be treated to French and Asian cuisines. Or dine at Antonio's Restaurant which offers delectable meals.

Acknowledgment: Sue is for pleasure to be American-born Jeb Camp John Hay, particularly to natural attractions, since we first visited. But the Philippine government and the camp's private developer should also be commended for realizing that, more than just prime real estate, Camp John Hay is also part of the nation's history.

Baguio is accessible by land and air-conditioned buses to and from Manila leave almost every hour every day. There are also daily commercial flights to Loakan Airport. Call 5455666 or visit www.campjohnhay.com.

CAP John Hay Trade and Cultural Center is a perfect venue for social events.

FACADE of The Manor hotel

MEMORIES of the Baguio can be found at the Historical Core.

THE AMPHITHEATER is available for concerts, weddings and other special occasions.

WE ARE FAMILY. Gary outings with son Gabriel (above), and daughter Kiara (right)

WITH the Christian youth group Sigs

Still pure and energetic at 40

BIRTHDAY. Gary surprises wife at 20 years, Angeli, with roses

By Reiza Fontanos
Correspondent

AGE cannot stop Gary Valenciano.

This was proven by his three-hour concert, "Gary V. Thanks to!," last Aug. 6 at the Araneta Coliseum, which the performer filled to the rafters.

Though he turned 40 that night, Gary V didn't look it. He was nothing but Mr. Pure Energy all throughout; after all, this was a souvenir of praise and thanksgiving to God that has given him 40 years of life, 20 years of marriage, 20 years of a successful career in show business and three talented kids.

At one point Gary asked those in the audience to raise their hands if it was their first time ever to watch a Gary V concert, and the majority did. It was to be a night of many firsts and milestones.

It was the first time that all of the Valenzuelan children performed on stage with their Gary. His eldest son Paolo, 19, joined him onstage for the first time. Though a bit nervous at the start, Paolo quickly found his niche and rocked to the Christian tune of "Open the Eyes of My Heart." Biana, 11, who is quite accustomed to performing, sang the Disney medley "You'll Be in My Heart" while Gabriel, 16, who is the spitting image of his father not only in looks and height but dance moves, came out a member of three to the delight of the young crowd.

Another first was the tender tribute Gary paid to his own father, Ric Valenciano. Ric has paid tribute to his mother in previous shows) with the song "Mother's Love." Like Mother is so fond of taking pictures that he has photos of practically every Gary V concert, which have been compiled into a book along with Gary's baby and family photos. Simply titled "Gary V," it is a must-have for every fan. Some of the photos that Vic took at the "Thankful" concert appear on this page.

Touching

Also touching was the portion where Gary shared his and wife Angeli's love story along with their wedding photos and dedicated to her the song "Bituin Marahil Ideal" (which she composed, by the way). The gesture gathered shrieks of delight, especially when he got off the stage afterward and gave her a dozen roses and a sweet kiss, as it was also their 20th wedding anniversary that day.

Through the song "Friends," Gary paid homage to his friends in the entertainment industry such as Ina Dia Paulin, Ellena Santos and Louie Ocampo. There was also a showcase of photos of his friends.

As Gary's goodwill ambassador for the past five years, Gary has traveled around the country to spread hope and joy to sick and underprivileged children. The impact of Gary's life was developed through a montage of the encounters while he sang the moving "People Need The Lord."

Young people were definitely a strong presence that night. Joining Gary in "Praise" were three groups The Animal and Sigs, which consists of talented youth for Christ teenagers from Christian fellowships JIL, CCF, Victory Christian Fellowship and New Life Alabang. Creating a soothing rendition of "We Are The Reason," youngsters from jubilee and theophanic churches created glow-in-the-dark representations of the cross, happy faces, doves and messages of Jesus' love through hand names lit by glow sticks. Only Gary V can make gospel music cool and appealing to the youth.

A celebration of two decades as a performing artist would not be complete without some reminiscing with a medley of '80s and '90s hits like MC Hammer's "Can't Touch This," "Free" and Technotronic's "Get Up and Move Your Body" with the old choreography and the many Manoverens dancegroup moving perfectly in sync with a backdrop of scenes from concerts past.

And Gary still could do the moves and groove like he was only 20. And this was when one realized that Gary V doesn't age; rather, he changes with the times. From puffy happy pants and shoulder pads to laid-back jeans and hoodie...he remains "it" and a spectacle to behold onstage when performing.

While age is nothing but a number for Gary, diabetes remains a constant threat not only to his health but his very life. He said many fans confided to him their fears about being diagnosed with the disease. Gary is quick to give them hope, stressing that the last he is able to sing and dance is proof positive that someone up there is watching over him.

Passion for craft

Perhaps it is also his passion for the craft that keeps him young, as you can catch him still smiling while singing a particular heartfelt line in a song or when breaking out into a jubilant dance during the instrumental, no matter how many times he must have performed that number in his long career.

A career which, of course, has spanned so many hits that a one-night concert cannot contain all of them, even with no intermission. However, the most favorite ones are always there like "I Know No," "If Ever or Long," "Kiss na Kiss," "Medley" "Medley" "Hanggang Kailan" and "Why Me in Saying Again."

However, in keeping with the praise Bertie Gary sang only a couple of his famous ballads, except even like "How Did You Know?" and "Nakapagsabi Ka" with special guest Pedie Pascual. Instead, he focused on his Christian songs: "Sa Talampak," "The Warrior is a Child," "I Will Be Here," "Open My Eyes," "Could You Be Blessed?" "Saturday Be ang Gawa", "Take Me Out of the Dark" and capped the night with the classic "Shout For Joy" and heartfelt "At Christ Alone." All performed with the classical presence of the Pasiphay Band under Ben Bautista. Both are couples in Gary's careers and another reason to be thankful for.

At his closing speech, Gary has a lot to be thankful for. But Fil Ignacio are thankful for him. In a effort asked what legacy he wishes to leave behind and so that night he said, "I just want to remain an inspiration to people's lives. To inject some hope when everything seems hopeless." Which he has done for millions of people. More than once and concerts, Gary V truly inspires.

"Gary V... Thankful" will be shown at 10:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 27 on Studio 23.

WHILE Gary performs onstage, his dad, Ric Valenciano, performs with a camera. The senior Valenciano took this shot of Gary dancing with the Animal and the photo on the right of Gary singing with son Paolo.

Sunday LIFESTYLE Tr

Twice blessed in th

Text and photos by Maria Congee S. Gomez
Contributor

THE *BAROTO* is an efficient transport system among the marsh-dwellers and nipa palm producers in the more far-flung areas of the Babuyan islands.

In Sitio Macanaya, Aparri, the wooden-constructed vessel helps people traverse the Cagayan River, onward to Babuyan Channel, from here to Magbit Beach in Camiguin (not the islands in Northern Mindanao), and even farther to the islands of Fuga, Calayan, Dalupiri and Babuyan Claro.

The Babuyan group of islands lies in the northern part of Aparri, Cagayan. It is composed of these five island-barangays and set apart by three to five travel hours by boat; Camiguin Island is four hours away from Aparri; Fuga and Calayan are three hours away from Camiguin; Dalupiri is three-and-a-half hours away; and Babuyan Claro, four to five hours.

Among these, only Camiguin and Calayan are the most habitable. Fuga Islands are the densely populated. Babuyan Claro is collared by gigantic waves and hut-size boulders that bar its coastline.

"I suppose our areas could be best described as crime-, theft- and robbery-free, and peaceful. We have a laid-back ambience, a visual feast of nature wonder on land and on open water and a spectacular view of two mountain ranges that looked like the sentries of bygone years," said Camiguin's barangay captain Florencio de Guzman.

This is Tuesday morning still dazed by the inconvenience of a 13-hour travel by land. Egged my way out of Florida Bus with a throbbing headache and shook off Tundra-like cool caused by a malfunctioning air-con-

TWICE/ C6

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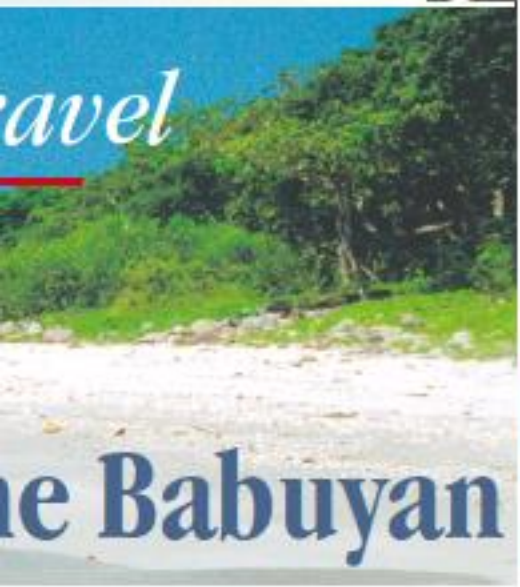

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For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text Feedback:
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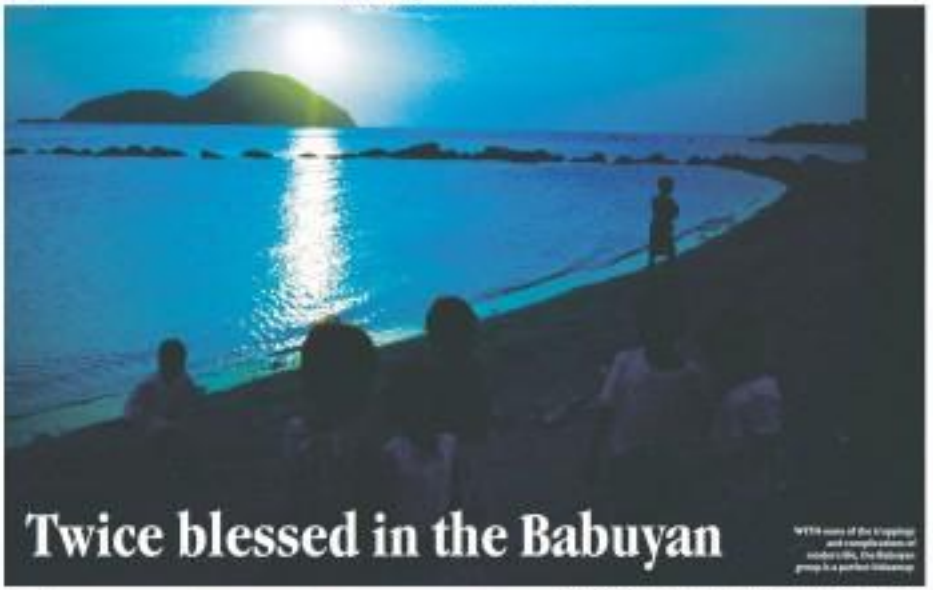
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Bucolic best describes the far-flung islands known for their unpredictable weather and uncomplicated beauty



Twice blessed in the Babuyan

WITH none of the trappings and complications of modern life, the Babuyan group is a perfect hideaway

AN ALMOST wood-and-thatch church serves the steadily growing population of Camiguin.

Volatile life-ways

Pressed for some reasons we came this far to Babuyan, I'd nothing to gain, "for serendipity's sake." We had no concrete plans to boot off. We divide the witness between circumstance and fate...easy we go literally adventure and our sanity.

The trip, however, was blessed with good weather and occasional cloudbursts. From a distance of 10-km, you could almost see shades of Maghé Beach, a patch of green land, and a tapestry of beautiful blue sky as though forming a grand canopy. Beneath this is a circuit of smoke that billowed Mountains Timpalad and Camiguin. This episode was wind. Fusing with cloth layers of fog that had descended on Mt. Camiguin. The mountains have caught the fancy of hikers, but the cumulonimbus bring most them have warned about the presence there of the Philippine cobra and other reptiles. Mt. Timpalad, on the other hand, is a favorite subject of interest for researchers and Ornithology students.

But this would not mean Camiguin has no hiking grounds to offer. A mere 15-minute land ride leads visitors to the beautiful island of Pandakan, formerly the focus of disputes between former Batangas Balandran number Emma Hartzen, the conquered prizes, We asked Mariana her opinion on the tourism potentials of Camiguin and how it could be improved.

Mariana admitted the lack of adequate accommodation in Camiguin that draw visitors away. Although the "homestay has just up five cottages that charge a nominal rate fee of P250 per night. Hardly said these are not enough to host a large group of visitors, especially during the summer months. The cottages have a communal bathroom with cup water and electricity fault powered by the homestay's generator.

And because Mariana believes the only way to boost tourism is to offer something different, she has opened Pamulaan to visitors who specifically love the outdoors.

In Pamulaan, one can pitch a tent on a patch of pasture-land surrounded by the moving sounds of farm animals. There's a natural pond, where beings (milkfish) and tilapia are grown, an ideal come-on for those who love fishing. Then there is a walkway perfumed with tree-lined lullaby (Ilang) and calamansi, forming a canopy and a nature's boon to protect the visitors from unwelcome visitors.

Given more time, Pamulaan, Mariana said, could make up for Camiguin's lack. But she won't more of Babuyan's superdivided treasures.

"Everything here follows a pattern, albeit is dependent on the fickleness of nature. There are shiftings that govern the daily rest of our existence. To understand this is to grasp as well the interplay of sun and dry seasons," Mariana said.

In the morning, mist rush to the shoreline to gather coconuts. In the afternoons, they race there very sun in the open water for a few yards. The rare flutterfish are involved in the buy and sell of wares believed to be from parts of a World War II shipwreck. Aries Barrios, who is a popular boat-mage buyer of these parts in Camiguin, told he buys from a commissioned trader at P3 a kilo and sells the same to a second stage buyer in Agusan at a price.

Heart of the economy

Pagan's natural elements are marginal but it has a community system, social socialization and network based on the sari-sari store and the Lufalfig (bike) driver. The unemployed and key players in politics earn chairing a store and a chip that regularly plies the route. Each time the stores close shop, it is the Lufalfig driver who takes over the role in delivering goods around the barangays.

The Lufalfig driver is also a repository of dearly held secrets of families. Among the Lufalfig's interesting keeps is a story of good and famous nationals. Those who buy the marine fish at almost triple the price are good Taiwanese. The "bad eggs" are those who counterfeit the rare-down's ice plant (but was once used as a shabu battery in the mid 1990s.

Within Camiguin's waters, marine fishes are accordingly limited to mayo-mayo, cobal fish, dalagang bukid and lapu-lapu sold at P150.00 per kilo. These pieces of medium-size fish regardless of weight is estimated a kilo. Pork it sold at P72 per kilo and native chickens at P60 per head. Rice is harvested twice a year; before, it used to be once a year. Apparently the population is growing.

Longtime resident Teresita Pagarin swallowed the swelling population as migration between the five island barangays and the mainland. She showed us her eight middle finger that had been badly bitten by a sea snake when she fed the fishes in the open waters. Dog-, mosquito- and snakebites are the common causes of deaths in Camiguin. The traditional antidotes are rubbers, which cannot however prevent the tetanus' long-term effects.

A HORSE is still a reliable breed of burden on the island.

Bucolic best

In spite of treacherous, harrowing waves, kindred spirits in the wooded hills and a shaky lantern you shouldn't mind, I'll still say bucolic best down this the island barangays of Babuyan.

Babuyan's uncomplicated way of life remains one of its attractions. With none of the trappings and complications of modern life, the Babuyan is a perfect getaway, where nature's peace and quiet reign. The morning smoke-colored breeze parting through lush vegetation is enough to kiss one's worries away.

Call it unpredictable, like a ceiling-ride with intimate designs of circuit that keep Babuyan islands in the shadow. When the day turns into night, the link rock home to some themselves. At the crack of dawn, another journey begins as the darvin leaves Maghé Beach to bring the pearl catch to Iligan Mountain.

It's a quiet, almost boring life but for urbanites, there is indeed a sanctuary in Babuyan, where time moves ever so lightly, if at all, crafting as like the breeze does in Camiguin's dreams beyond the corners of the river zone.

TRAVEL BRIEFS

Airline expands fleet

TIGER Airways International is acquiring 10 more aircraft as part of its long-term fleet plan for 2005-2009.

The planned acquisition include six super long-range aircraft, one super long-range medium-sized aircraft and seven long-range medium-sized aircraft.

That has also accelerated delivery of eight A320-200/S00 aircraft to one year, as part of the company's strategic plan to become the region's leading airline.

The new aircraft will also be used for Manila flights.

That flies from Manila 10 times weekly to Bangkok and daily to Osaka. Call 812-0741 or visit www.thaiairways.com

Bohol fun tours

CEBU Pacific Air (CEB) offers fun tours to Bohol until Aug. 31 with a direct flight to Tagbilaran.

The Countryside Tour package of P9,939 will include a visit to the second oldest stone church in the Philippines, the Baclayon Church, and the postcard-type Chocolate Hills, among others.

The Master Life package of P9,920 will include dolphin and whale watching, a rare exotic display of marine life, and a trip to Balicasag Island.

Four packages include round-trip airfare, two-night hotel accommodation with breakfast, and round-trip land and sea transfers. Hotel partners are Bohol Beach Club, Alona Beach Hotel, Bohol Divers and Bohol Tropics.

Cebu Pacific flies daily to Tagbilaran at 6:40 a.m. Call 4364000 or visit www.cebupacificair.com

New flight services to Western India

SINGAPORE Airlines now has a three-weekly B777 flight to Ahmedabad, capital of Gujarat in Western India.

Flight SQ462 leaves Singapore every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 0020 hours and arrives in Ahmedabad at 0445 hours the same morning. The return flight, SQ461, will depart at 0600 hours and arrive in Singapore at 1400 hours.

With the new service, SIA and its sister carrier Silkair will be covering nine India destinations, including New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Bangalore.

A special promotion is available for Filipinos who would like to visit Ahmedabad and New Delhi. For $1,190, passengers will get economy class airfare, seven nights accommodations in four- and five-star hotels, full-day tours and full-board meals. They will also earn double KrisFlyer miles when they visit Ahmedabad anytime until Sept. 28.

Call 8166911 (Manila), 3326111 (Cebu) and 2245008 (Davao).

'Ticket-less' travel

Singapore Airlines' "paperless" electronic ticket or E-Ticket makes buying one's travel ticket no longer a dreadful possibility. A passenger's travel data are simply stored in the airlines' database allowing him or her to merely check in for a flight with a valid passport. The passenger will get an E-Ticket Receipt with itinerary confirming travel arrangements.

The receipt can be folded and easily put in the pocket, unlike the conventional ticket. It is taking can be done simply without the need for a ticket in he or she.

In he, there are 41 Singapore Airlines stations accepting tickeless travel. Call 8169911 to 99.

Volcano adventure package

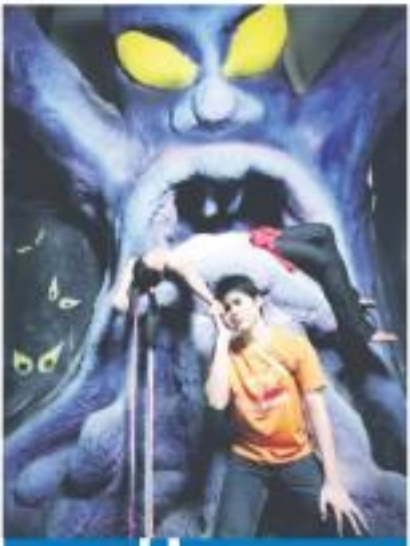
THE HOMEF renovated Taal View Hotel, now managed by Fuego Hotels and Properties, offers the "Volcano Adventure Package" until Dec. 31. It includes overnight accommodations in a superior room, plus free breakfast at the coffee shop.

The package costs P6,000 (single occupancy), P7,400 per person (twin sharing) and P5,475 for school groups.

Call 7501999, 7501807 or 7501805, or 0461 413388. Visit www.fuegohotels.com.

ON HER: Overhauled jeans and Herbench white crewneck. On him: Bench cotton jersey tee and Overhauled jeans

NICOLETTE wears a round-neck cotton tee with logo print and Overhauled denim mini. Bobbie wears a long-sleeved jersey with contrast topstitch and Herbench Overhauled sweatjeggers.



Overhauled's fantastic feat

Text by Charles K. Marsi
Photos by Diana Tirona
Styling by Mau Marugen

EVEN before Bench turn-around controversial, denims had already played a significant segment of its business.

Though Bench says denim is collaborative (denim) shirts in color, mostly saying was remain their most popular product. They admit denims and jeans in general are among the brand's top sellers—and most recently they introduced the Overhauled line.

As the Western market propelled denim to high fashion cult status, Bench has kept in tune with the global trend and updated its denim line.

The Bench line has spawned a multi-brand that extends to shoes and scents

ON NICOLETTE: Herbench Overhauled combat jeans and Herbench tuxedo cut-out-vest rhinestones and short-sleeved tee combo. On Andrew: Yellow crewneck tee with biker piping and Overhauled combat jeans

DOUBLE-SLEEVED tee and Herbench Overhauled combat denims

ANDREW and Bobbie wear printed round-neck tees by Bench and Herbench, and Overhauled jeans

BUBBLES wears a flat-seam one-shoulder cotton-spandex top and Overhauled jeans (left). Benjamin dons a white shirt with light-blue collar and Overhauled jeans (above).

JERSEY-COTTON short-sleeve top and Overhauled denim pants

ANDREW wears a yellow Bench crewneck with Benjamin wears a green cotton-canvas tee with embossed print. Both are in Overhauled jeans.

Overhauled's fantastic feat

Turn to page C3

The phenomenon paved the way for the birth of Overhauled in 2000. Bench's answer to international mega-brands' designer jeans. Details of the basic five-pocket jeans were stripped, tweaked, demonstrated and reconstructed.

It was for the hip segment of the market, says Kristine Lim, Siam Corp.'s marketing division manager. The styles were up to date and a notch above cutting-edge Bum regular Bench and Fitchtech jeans.

The concept of Overhauled was to cater to a market that had acquired a taste for flare and trendier jean styles, but had a budget of under P1,000.

Multi-brand

In true Bench fashion, Overhauled clicked with Filipinos. Four years on, Overhauled has spawned men's shirts and women's tops, underwear, bags and accessories, footwear and even fragrances—another branding feat for the 15-year old multi-brand company.

But even with its success, Bench denizens being labeled No. 1. It prefers to be called the leader of local brands, says Kim Lao, president of Blue Factory Corp., sister company of Siam Corp., which owns the Bench brand. Blue Factory manufactures Bench garments.

"We follow global trends," explains Lao. "We keep in mind to come up with new silhouettes, fabrics and washes. Maintaining good quality is our priority. At the same time, we keep our products affordable."

Overhauled's low-rise and super low-rise jeans both for men and women have surprisingly reached mainstream popularity, even with a largely-style shy mass market, according to Lao. Boot-cuts in stretch fabrics are still among the most saleable.

"It's always a challenge for us to think of products that will click with the local market," he explains.

Eighty percent of all Bench merchandise is made locally, although some fabrics and materials are sourced abroad.

Even the fragrances are made here, adds Lim. The Overhauled fragrance comes in five variants that can be used alone or mixed to create a unique, personal scent.

Lao says washes and "whiskers" on their denims are done by hand, so no two pairs are exactly alike.

Recently, the Overhauled line introduced denims with Derma extract, which lends the jeans a three-dimensional printed look.

Similar to designer brands, new pieces have back pocket logo stitches or slightly-skewed and pressed pocket logos. Other pants have fresh treatments in buttons and rivets.

So, will the denim line steal the spotlight from the undergarments in Bench's Aug. 31 fashion show? More likely not.

But will Overhauled's latest collection click with Bench fans? Click would be an understatement.

SCENT-SATIONS. Overhauled Body Spray in Exciting Man Classic, Super Active, Extra Noise and Cool Comfort—used on their own or mixed and matched (P69 each)

JUST SNEAKIN'. Canvas and rubber sneakers with fringed edges by Overhauled (P599)